

**1Sky * American Rivers * Center for American Progress * Clean Water Action *
Conservation Law Foundation * Defenders of Wildlife * Earthjustice * Environment
America * Environmental Defense Fund * Friends of the Earth * Greenpeace * League of
Conservation Voters * National Audubon Society * National Parks Conservation
Association * National Wildlife Federation * Natural Resources Defense Council * Oceana
* Pew Environment Group * Sierra Club * The Wilderness Society * Union of Concerned
Scientists * U.S. Climate Action Network * World Wildlife Fund**

January 20, 2011

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We are writing to you about the Clean Air Act, a remarkably successful public health law that has saved hundreds of thousands of lives over the last 40 years while our economy has tripled in size. Our organizations cannot overstate the priority we put on preventing efforts to block, weaken or delay implementation of this vital law, which at every stage in its history has garnered overwhelming bipartisan support. We urge you to use your upcoming State of the Union address to underscore the critical need for the Clean Air Act's sensible safeguards and to oppose any attempt to block, weaken, or delay its continued implementation.

As you know, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has begun to roll out long-overdue safeguards to reduce carbon, mercury, and other life-threatening pollution from big sources that have been allowed to dump unlimited amounts of pollution into our air for far too long. These clean air safeguards will save tens of thousands more lives, prevent millions of illnesses, and reduce health care costs, while spurring innovation and job growth. Their health benefits will vastly outweigh their costs.

Unfortunately, the nation's biggest polluters and some members of Congress have launched an unprecedented attack on the Clean Air Act. Your recent Wall Street Journal op-ed emphasized your administration's achievements under the Clean Air Act. In order to build on those achievements, the EPA must retain its authority to hold polluters accountable and continue moving forward to implement all of these much-needed safeguards.

You have demonstrated a strong commitment to protecting public health and bringing about a clean energy economy throughout your presidency. Your upcoming State of the Union address offers a perfect opportunity to renew that commitment by making clear that you will continue to stand with the public -- not polluters -- and do everything in your power to ensure that the EPA retains the authority and the resources to take the life-saving actions necessary to protect the air we breathe and the water we drink.

Sincerely,

Liz Butler, Campaign Director
1Sky

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