

1Sky \* Breakthrough Institute \* Center for Neighborhood Technology  
\* Center for State Innovation \* Climate Crisis Coalition \* Climate  
Protection Campaign \* Climate Solutions \* ColorOfChange.Org \* The  
Corps Network \* Earth Day Network \* EcoAmerica \* Ella Baker  
Center for Human Rights \* Energize America \* Green for All \* Green  
House Network \* Hip Hop Caucus \* Innovations in Civic Participation  
\* Kyoto USA \* MoveOn.Org Political Action \* Solve Climate \* Step It  
Up! \* Sustainable South Bronx \* U.S. Climate Emergency Council \*

Hon. George W. Bush  
President  
White House  
Washington, DC

Hon. Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Capitol  
Washington, DC

Hon. Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Capitol  
Washington, DC

January 21, 2008

Dear President Bush, Speaker Pelosi, and Senator Reid,

In crafting a national stimulus package, we urge you to consider policy measures that not only help keep our economy out of recession in the short-term, but also make smart investments in longer-term, sustained economic prosperity by moving our nation towards a clean energy economy that provides employment opportunities for poor and working-class Americans. In addressing America's current economic difficulties, we have a unique opportunity to not only avoid a recession, but also to address one of the root causes of our current economic woes: high energy prices and our dependence on dirty and depleting fossil fuels. We have an opportunity to act boldly to strengthen American energy independence, invest in the clean, sustainable energy sources that will form the foundation of a new era of economic prosperity, and address global warming – all while putting hundreds of thousands of Americans to work. We encourage you to incorporate the ideas below into a comprehensive economic stimulus bill.

In general terms, stimulus packages should circulate more income to low and moderate-income households and target investment in labor-intensive sources of national productivity. A natural way to achieve both goals, recommended by the Center for American Progress, the Center for Economic and Policy Research, and the Economic Policy Institute, is to combine increased spending on means-targeted or unemployment-targeted programs (unemployment insurance, food stamps, LIHEAP, etc.) with investments in our physical infrastructure and public buildings. We endorse these proposals but think they should be further guided by the following principle: *that all tax cuts and direct spending measures should promote a clean energy economy that provides opportunities for all Americans, including the poor and working class.* This would mean, for example:

- Funding a public Clean Energy Corps that offers work and service opportunities to the young and poor to combat climate change through energy efficiency and weatherization projects;
- Expanded and immediate funding of the recent Green Jobs Act (GJA), Title X of the EISA;
- Directing infrastructure investments toward transit, mixed use dense development, walkable communities, and overall reductions in vehicle miles traveled and our nation's carbon footprint;
- Investing in improving our electricity grid to be "smarter" in end-use efficiency and allowing greater use of distributed renewable energy generation;
- Using additional monies allocated to LIHEAP for improving building energy efficiency as well as home heating assistance, and removing current constraints on such use;
- Extend production and investment tax credits for solar, wind, and other renewable energy companies to prevent high-growth clean energy industries from having to cancel projects and lay off workers;
- Establishing federal credit guarantees for state and municipal "efficiency utilities" promoting energy conservation efforts in transportation, industry, and buildings;
- Establishing a federal revolving loan fund to support such efforts;
- Providing personal tax credits or rebates to encourage the purchase and installation of energy efficient appliances and heating and cooling systems.

By increasing national energy efficiency, reducing out-of-pocket energy spending, and creating employment opportunities, the measures above will meet basic stimulus goals while furthering national objectives of climate protection, energy security, and economic equity. This year's stimulus package offers the unique opportunity to advance all these aims, and we encourage you to seize it.

Signed,

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*\* For identification purposes only*