

Dear U.S. Senators and Members of Congress,

As leaders in our communities concerned about the environmental impacts and economic consequences of our current energy practices, we urge you to back a rapid and steady transition to an economy powered by clean, renewable resources. Specifically, we are asking you to co-sponsor and support Senate and House bills, which set a goal of meeting America's energy needs with 100 percent renewable energy and expanding access to the benefits of clean energy to all, including historically underserved and disadvantaged communities.

Burning coal, oil and gas is polluting our air, water and land. It is harming our health and changing our climate even faster than scientists predicted. At the same time, low-income communities, communities of color and indigenous people often bear a disproportionate share of the impact.

We can have healthier, more vibrant communities and a livable future for kids growing up today, but to get there, we must transform the ways we produce and consume energy. That has to start with a commitment to 100 percent clean, renewable energy.

Thanks to local, state and federal programs, renewable energy is growing faster than anyone could have imagined. Clean energy is nearing a tipping point in our economy. Renewable energy and energy efficient technologies are growing quickly and getting cheaper, making them more accessible. In the past 10 years, the U.S. has seen a 43-fold increase in solar power and a seven-fold increase in wind power, while the average American now uses ten percent less energy.

America has an opportunity to be a leader on clean energy, reaping the economic and environmental benefits inherent in the global transition. The progress we have seen recently should give us the confidence that we can take renewable energy to the next level.

Fortunately, there are great prospects for a major shift to clean and abundant renewable energy. A growing number of cities, states, corporations and institutions are setting their sights on 100 percent renewable energy targets. Scores of cities, from San Diego, CA to Georgetown, TX, to Atlanta, GA have set 100 percent renewable energy targets. Nearly 100 major companies, including Apple, Walmart and Johnson & Johnson have established similar goals. Hawaii has a law requiring 100 percent renewable electricity by 2045 and a number states are now considering it.

Despite considerable progress, we still have a long way to go. That is why we are calling for swift action to transition to 100 percent renewable energy and to ensure that the transition to clean energy helps lift up low-income and minority communities that have suffered some of the worst impacts of pollution.

Please cosponsor the House/Senate bill [H.R.3314/S.987] to support a 100 percent renewable energy future.

Sincerely,

**National Organizations**

350.org  
CatholicNetwork.US  
Environment America

Interfaith Power & Light  
ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability USA  
KyotoUSA  
Nuclear Information and Resource Service  
Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Power Shift Network  
Public Citizen  
Safe Climate Campaign  
SustainUS  
United Methodist Women

### **Local Organizations**

350 Mass for a Better Future  
350 Montana  
350 New Orleans  
Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT)  
Better Future Project  
Campaign for Renewable Energy  
Center for Regenerative Community Solutions  
Citizens United for Renewable Energy (CURE)  
Climate Action Now  
Climate Law & Policy Project  
Coastal Research and Education Society of Long Island  
Cooperative Energy Futures  
Exclusive Jewels Gallery  
Gas Free Seneca  
Gasp, Inc.  
Grassroots Environmental Education  
Iowa Interfaith Power & Light  
Jewish Climate Action Network  
Lansing Climate Action  
Nature Coast Conservation, Inc.  
New Jersey Institute of Technology  
New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light  
NuWatt Energy  
Oaktree Development  
Our Climate  
Physicians for Social Responsibility, Arizona Chapter  
Physicians for Social Responsibility, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter  
Progress Florida  
Renewable Energy Long Island  
RePower Partners  
Resonant Energy  
RI Interfaith Power & Light  
Room to Maneuver  
Rootskeeper.org

Seneca Lake Guardian, a Waterkeeper Affiliate  
Ski Butlers  
Solar Store of Greenfield  
The Environmental Justice Center at Chestnut Hill United Church  
Toxics Action Center  
Unitarian Universalist Mass Action Network  
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility

## **Individuals**

David Dinkins, 106th Mayor, City of New York; CU-SIPA Professor  
Samuel Weaver, City of Boulder City Council  
Tom Butt, Mayor, City of Richmond  
Raffael Scheck, History Professor, Colby College  
Barbara Welker, Anthropology Professor, SUNY Geneseo  
Walter Bock, Professor of Evolutionary Biology, Columbia University  
Baerbel Hoenisch, Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Columbia University  
Rev. Peter Sawtgell, Eco-Justice Ministries  
Grady Mcgonagill, Elders Climate Action  
Susan Crate, Professor of Anthropology, Environmental Science, and Policy George Mason University  
Sarah Stoll, Professor of Environmental Chemistry, Georgetown University  
Annalisa Peace, Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance  
Mark Vasu, Greentown Labs  
David Bly, State Representative, Minnesota House of Representatives  
Sandra Pappas, State Senator, Minnesota Senate  
Mimi Stewart, State Senator, New Mexico Senate  
Daniel Kline, ParaTechnica  
Gail Neustad, PennFuture  
Chris Rabb, State Representative, Pennsylvania General Assembly  
Ann Finneran, Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter  
Chris Chiappari, Professor of Sociology and Anthropology, St. Olaf College  
Rev. Steve Garnaas-Holmes, St. Matthew's United Methodist Church  
Fue Lee, State Representative, Minnesota House of Representatives  
Laura Fine, State Representative, Illinois General Assembly  
Attorney Gail Garrett, Town of Mt. Washington, MA  
Elizabeth Thomas, Town Supervisor, Town of Ulysses  
Georgia Mavrommati, Professor of Ecological Economics, University of Massachusetts Boston  
Robert Goldberg, Professor of Quantitative Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts Medical School  
Bethany Bradley, Professor of Environmental Conservation, University of Massachusetts Amherst  
Regan Keller, Us Creative Works  
Seungsook Moon, Professor of Sociology, Vassar College  
Josephine Noone, Councilwoman, Washington Borough, NJ  
Michael Wyssession, Professor of Earth and Planetary Science, Washington University in Saint Louis  
Kate Stanne, Westfield State University