



March 22, 2010

United States House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of The U.S. Conference of Mayors I urge you to oppose any efforts to block or delay the enforcement of Clean Air Act requirements to reduce global warming pollution.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors has a strong record on pursuing policies that protect our climate from the impact of greenhouse gas emissions. We have over 1,000 Mayors from across the United States who have committed their communities to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. We have policy encouraging alternative energy sources and fuels, transit-oriented development, energy-efficient buildings, and the concept of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant. These policies will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, however, the global warming crisis requires leadership at every level of government. The federal government must rise to this challenge and in doing so hold the largest polluters accountable for carbon emissions and help grow the clean energy economy.

Instead of embracing the progress of state and local governments to combat climate change, efforts to block or delay all or part of the Clean Air Act would seriously undermine the overwhelming science of climate change and further exacerbate impacts to national security and public health and welfare. Additionally, these efforts hold back billions of dollars in job-creating clean energy investments all across the country. America has the ability to lead the world in growing the clean energy economy but our continued dependence on fossil fuels does nothing to drive investments in the clean energy and efficiency programs needed to spur local economic development and job growth.

The Clean Air Act has cost-effectively protected our citizens and the environment for decades. In a 2007 landmark decision the Supreme Court ruled the Clean Air Act covers greenhouse gases and now is the time to put this law to work to fight climate change.

The Conference of Mayors urges you oppose attacks on the Clean Air Act that would undermine long-overdue action to protect Americans citizens from climate change impacts and jeopardize growing a vibrant clean energy economy. Thank you for your consideration and support. If you have any questions, please contact my staff, Judy Sheahan, at jsheahan@usmayors.org or 202-861-6775.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Cochran". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director
The U.S. Conference of Mayors