

March 8, 2010

The Honorable Ike Skelton  
The Honorable Joe Barton  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Skelton and Barton:

The agricultural organizations listed below support your introduction of resolutions of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act regarding the decision of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to move forward on regulating carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act (CAA). Such regulatory actions will carry severe consequences for the U.S. economy, including America's farmers and ranchers, through increased input costs and international market disparities.

Both the current and past Administrations have acknowledged that the CAA is not the appropriate vehicle for establishing greenhouse gas policy. However, this EPA finding that greenhouse gases endanger public health and welfare will trigger CAA regulatory actions such as application of National Ambient Air Quality Standards, New Source Performance Standards, and provisions of the Prevention of Significant Deterioration and Title V programs, essentially establishing greenhouse gas policy through the CAA by default. The compliance costs for these CAA programs would be overwhelming as millions of entities, including farms and ranches, would be subject to burdensome CAA regulations. While EPA has attempted to craft a "tailoring rule" to ease such a burden, our experience in these matters is that attempts to administratively relax environmental requirements are routinely challenged in court.

The EPA rule itself claims to establish only a weak, indirect link between greenhouse gases and public health and welfare, going so far as to admit there are uncertainties over the net, direct health impacts of the greenhouse gases it is attempting to regulate. Further, EPA Administrator Jackson recently acknowledged that unilateral actions by the United States would have no material impact on global warming. China and India, two of the largest emitters of greenhouse gases, continue to reject any verifiable reduction measures. Without an effective international agreement on emission reductions, unilateral action by the U.S. only serves to further damage our economy and encourage businesses to relocate. EPA's finding puts the agricultural economy at grave risk based on allegations of a weak, indirect link to public health and welfare and despite the lack of any environmental benefit.

For these reasons, we strongly support your efforts to prevent EPA from moving forward with its endangerment finding and urge House approval of your resolution as introduced.

Sincerely,

Alabama Soybean Association  
American Farm Bureau Federation

American Feed Industry Association  
American Hereford Association  
American Mushroom Institute  
American National CattleWomen  
American Sheep Industry Association  
American Soybean Association  
American Sugar Alliance  
American Sugarbeet Growers Association  
American Veal Association  
Arizona Cattle Feeders Association  
Arizona Cotton Ginners Association  
Arkansas Cattlemen's Association  
Arkansas Rice Federation  
Arkansas Soybean Association  
Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Blue Diamond Growers  
California Cattlemen's Association  
California Citrus Mutual  
California Cotton Ginners Association  
California Cotton Growers Association  
California Floral Council  
California Grape & Tree Fruit League  
Colorado Cattlemen's Association  
Colorado Livestock Association  
Continental Dairy Products, Inc.  
Corn Producers Association of Texas  
Cotton and Grain Producers of the Lower Rio Grande Valley  
Cotton Warehouse Association of America  
Dairy Farmers of America, Inc.  
Delta Council  
Exotic Wildlife Association  
Florida Cattlemen's Association  
Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association  
Georgia Cattlemen's Association  
Georgia Cotton Commission  
Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association  
Grain and Feed Association of Illinois  
Idaho Cattlemen's Association  
Illinois Beef Association  
Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas  
Iowa Cattlemen's Association  
Iowa Soybean Association  
Kansas Cotton Association  
Kansas Livestock Association  
Kansas Soybean Association  
Kentucky Soybean Association

Louisiana Cotton and Grain Association  
Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation  
Louisiana Rice Producers' Group  
Louisiana Rice Growers Association  
Maryland Cattlemen's Association  
Michigan Cattlemen's Association  
Michigan Soybean Association  
Minnesota Corn Growers Association  
Minnesota Soybean Association  
Mississippi Cattlemen's Association  
Missouri Soybean Association  
Montana Stockgrower's Association  
National Alfalfa & Forage Alliance  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Barley Growers Association  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
National Chicken Council  
National Corn Growers Association  
National Cotton Council  
National Cotton Ginners Association  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Grain and Feed Association  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Renderers Association  
National Pork Producers Council  
National Potato Council  
National Sorghum Producers  
National Sunflower Association  
National Turkey Federation  
Nebraska Cattlemen  
Nebraska Corn Growers Association  
Nebraska Dry Bean Growers Association  
Nebraska Pork Producers  
Nebraska Soybean Association  
Nebraska Sugar Beet Growers  
Nebraska Wheat Board  
Nebraska Wheat Growers Association  
Nevada Cattlemen's Association  
New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association  
New Mexico Federal Lands Council  
New Mexico Wool Growers, Inc.  
New York Beef Processors  
Nisei Farmers League  
North Carolina Cattlemen's Association  
North Carolina Cotton Producers Association  
North Carolina Peanut Growers Association

North Dakota Soybean Association  
North Dakota Stockmen's Association  
Ohio Cattlemen's Association  
Ohio Soybean Association  
Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association  
Oklahoma Cotton Council  
Oklahoma Grain & Feed Association  
Oregon Association of Nurseries  
Oregon Cattlemen's Association  
Peanut Growers Cooperative Marketing Association  
Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association  
Pennsylvania Cattlewomen's Association  
Pennsylvania Center for Beef Excellence  
Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.  
Rolling Plains Cotton Growers  
St. Lawrence Cotton Growers  
SJV Quality Cotton Growers Association  
Sandyland Water Conservation District  
Society of American Florists  
South Dakota Agri-Business Association  
South Dakota Farm Bureau  
South Dakota Cattlemen's Association  
South Dakota Grain & Feed Association  
Southeast Cotton Ginners Association  
South East Dairy Farmers Association  
Southeastern Livestock Network  
South Texas Cotton and Grain Association, Inc.  
Southern Cotton Growers  
Southern Peanut Farmers Federation  
Southern Rolling Plains Cotton Growers Association, Inc.  
Southwest Council of Agribusiness  
Sunkist Growers  
Tennessee Soybean Association  
Texas Agriculture Cooperative Council  
Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association  
Texas Association of Agricultural Consultants  
Texas Association of Dairymen  
Texas Cattle Feeders Association  
Texas Citrus Mutual  
Texas Cotton Ginner Association  
Texas Cotton Producers  
Texas Independent Ginners Association  
Texas Food Producers Association  
Texas Forestry Association  
Texas Grain & Feed Association  
Texas Grain Sorghum Producers Association

Texas Nursery and Landscape Association  
Texas Pest Management Association  
Texas Pork Producers  
Texas Poultry Federation  
Texas Rice Producers Legislative Group  
Texas Seed Trade Association  
Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Association  
Texas Soybean Association  
Texas Vegetable Association  
Texas Wheat Producers Association  
Texas Wildlife Association  
The Family Farm Alliance  
The Fertilizer Institute  
Turfgrass Producers of Texas  
United Dairymen of Arizona  
United Egg Association  
United Egg Producers  
United Fresh Produce Association  
United States Beet Sugar Association  
U.S. Apple Association  
U.S. Canola Association  
U.S. Rice Producers Association  
USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council  
USA Rice Federation  
Utah Cattlemen's Association  
Virginia Cattlemen's Association  
Virginia Cotton Growers Association  
Virginia Peanut Growers Association  
Western Agricultural Processors Association  
Western Growers  
Western Peanut Growers Association  
Western United Dairymen  
Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association  
Wisconsin Soybean Association  
Wyoming Stock Growers Association

cc: Chairman Collin Peterson, House Committee on Agriculture  
Rep. Jo Ann Emerson