

# **An Open Letter to Congress from Groups Protecting Public Health**

April 4, 2011

Dear Senator/Representative:

Representing public health and medical professionals and other clean air advocates, we stand united in calling on you to uphold the Clean Air Act and to reject any measure that would block or delay the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from doing its job to protect all Americans from life-threatening air pollution.

Forty years ago, Congressional leaders from both parties wrote and passed the Clean Air Act. This law directed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to protect public health and the environment. Since then this wise congressional legacy has saved lives and improved the quality of life for millions of Americans.

But the job is not yet done. Far too many of our communities still suffer from poor air quality. Too many families, particularly those of lower income, face the impacts of toxic air pollution every day. And far too many of our nation's children, elderly, and people with asthma, cardiovascular and lung diseases and diabetes live under added threats to their health from breathing polluted air and the impacts of global warming.

Over the coming years the EPA will be fulfilling its duty to reduce the smog and soot pollution, air toxics, and global warming pollution that are the cause of these public health threats. We urge you to fully support the EPA in fulfilling this responsibility. Doing so is quite literally a matter of life and death for tens of thousands of people and will mean the difference between chronic debilitating illness or a healthy life for hundreds of thousands more.

Once again, we urge you to support moving forward with protective clean air standards and to oppose any measure that would delay or block progress toward a healthier tomorrow for all Americans.

Sincerely,

**Alabama**

Alabama Chapter of the American Thoracic Society (ATS)  
American Lung Association in Alabama  
Cahaba Riverkeeper  
Conservation Alabama  
Group Against Smog and Pollution  
The Shalom Center  
Union for Reform Judaism

**Alaska**

Alaska Community Action on Toxics  
American Lung Association in Alaska

**Arizona**

American Lung Association in Arizona  
Arizona Asthma Coalition  
Environment Arizona

**Arkansas**

American Lung Association in Arkansas

**California**

350.org  
American Lung Association in California  
Breathe California  
California Academy of Family Physicians  
California League of Conservation Voters  
California Public Health Association-North  
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Stockton  
Catholic Healthcare West  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Citizen's Coalition for a Safe Community  
Coalition for Clean Air  
East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice  
EcoEquity  
Energy Independence Now  
Environment California  
Environmental Law Foundation  
Families for Clean Air  
Global Community Monitor  
Global Green USA  
Healthy Child Healthy World  
Interfaith Power and Light  
KyotoUSA  
Napa County Asthma Coalition  
Pacific Environment  
Physicians for Social Responsibility, SF-Bay Area Chapter  
Planning and Conservation League  
Prevention Institute  
Public Health Institute  
Rainforest Action Network  
Regional Asthma Management and Prevention  
Rose Foundation for Communities & the Environment  
San Diego Regional Asthma Coalition  
Sierra Club  
Siskiyou County Public Health Dept.

The Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies  
TURN-The Utility Reform Network  
Voces Verdes

**Colorado**

Advanced Asthma Allergy and Immunology  
American Lung Association in Colorado  
Colorado Conservation Voters  
Colorado Environmental Coalition  
National Environmental Health Association  
Western Organization of Resource Councils  
Wilderness Workshop

**Connecticut**

American Lung Association in Connecticut  
Citizens Campaign for the Environment  
Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut  
Connecticut Nurses' Association  
Conservation Law Foundation  
CT Coalition for Environmental Justice  
Enviro Energy Connections  
Environment Connecticut  
The Great Land Conservation Trust

**Delaware**

American Lung Association in Delaware  
Delaware Ecumenical Council on Children and Families  
IMPACT Delaware Tobacco Prevention Coalition  
Learning Express Academy  
Learning Express Pre-school

**District of Columbia**

Alliance for Climate Protection  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Heart Association  
American Lung Association  
American Lung Association in the District of Columbia  
American Public Health Association  
American Rivers  
American Thoracic Society  
Breakthrough Technologies Institute, Inc.  
Chesapeake Climate Action Network  
Children's Environmental Health Network  
Clean Air Watch  
Clean Water Action  
Climate Protection Action Fund  
Community Action Partnership  
Consumers Union  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Earth Day Network  
Earthjustice  
Energy Action Coalition

Environment America  
Environmental and Energy Study Institute  
Environmental Defense Fund  
Environmental Integrity Project  
Friends Committee on National Legislation  
Friends of the Earth  
GREEN DMV  
Green For All  
Greenpeace USA  
Jewish Council for Public Affairs  
Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA)  
League of Conservation Voters  
League of Women Voters of the United States  
Metropolitan DC Thoracic Society  
National Assembly on School-Based Health Care  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Association of Local Boards of Health  
National Audubon Society  
National Consumer Law Center, on behalf of its low-income clients  
National Consumers League  
National Latino Coalition on Climate Change (NLCCC)  
National Parks Conservation Association  
National Physicians Alliance  
National Wildlife Federation  
Oil Change International  
Pew Environment Group  
Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Public Citizen  
Safe Climate Campaign  
Solar Energy Industries Association  
Southern Environmental Law Center  
The Wilderness Society  
Trust for America's Health  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
US Climate Action Network  
Voices for Progress  
World Wildlife Fund

### **Florida**

American Lung Association in Florida  
Common Ground for Conservation  
Environment Florida  
Farmworker Association of Florida  
Florida Academy of Family Physicians  
Florida Conservation Alliance  
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy

### **Georgia**

American Lung Association in Georgia  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
Mothers & Others for Clean Air  
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy

### **Hawaii**

American Lung Association in Hawaii  
Conservation Council for Hawai'i  
Hawaii Thoracic Society  
Preserve Pepeekeo Health & Environment

### **Idaho**

Climate Solutions  
American Lung Association in Idaho

### **Illinois**

American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation and National Home Oxygen Patients Association  
American Bottom Conservancy  
American College of Chest Physicians  
American Lung Association in Illinois  
Center for Neighborhood Technology  
Chicago Clean Energy Alliance  
Citizens Against Ruining the Environment  
Eco-Justice Collaborative  
Environment Illinois  
Environmental Law & Policy Center  
Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research  
Protestants for the Common Good  
Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago

### **Indiana**

American Lung Association in Indiana  
Environmental Law & Policy Center  
Valley Watch, Inc.

### **Iowa**

American Lung Association in Iowa  
Environment Iowa  
Environmental Law & Policy Center

### **Kansas**

American Lung Association in Kansas  
Great Plains Alliance for Clean Energy  
Kansas Public Health Association  
Wichita Initiative to Renew the Environment [WIRE]

### **Kentucky**

American Lung Association in Kentucky

### **Louisiana**

American Lung Association in Louisiana  
Louisiana Bucket Brigade

### **Maine**

American Lung Association in Maine  
Conservation Law Foundation  
ENE (Environment Northeast)  
Environment Maine  
Frannie Peabody Center  
Green Alliance  
GrowSmart Maine  
Lamey-Wellehan Shoes  
Maine Council of Churches  
Maine Migrant Health Program  
Maine Osteopathic Association  
Maine People's Alliance  
Natural Resources Council of Maine  
Portland Public Health Division  
The Maine League of Young Voters

Toxics Action Center  
Violence No More Inc.

### **Maryland**

1Sky  
American Lung Association in Maryland  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America  
Chesapeake Climate Action Network  
Environment Maryland  
Maryland League of Conservation Voters  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association

### **Massachusetts**

Global Warming Education Network  
American Lung Association in Massachusetts  
Ceres  
Clean Air Task Force  
Conservation Law Foundation  
Environment Massachusetts  
Environmental League of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Climate Action Network  
Toxics Action Center Campaigns

### **Michigan**

American Lung Association of Michigan  
Ecology Center  
Environment Michigan  
Environmental Law & Policy Center  
Great Lakes Environmental Law Center  
Michigan Chapter of the Sierra Club  
Michigan League of Conservation Voters Education Fund  
Michigan Thoracic Society  
West Michigan Environmental Action Council

### **Minnesota**

Alliance for Sustainability  
American Lung Association in Minnesota  
Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis  
Clean Up the River Environment (CURE)  
Duluth Audubon Society  
Environment Minnesota  
Environmental Law & Policy Center  
Fresh Energy  
Helen Harris, Assistant Professor at  
Minnesota University Moorhead School  
of Nursing; RN, MS  
Institute for Energy and Environmental Research  
Institute for Local Self-Reliance  
Izaak Walton League of America - Minnesota Division  
League of Women Voters - Minnesota  
League of Women Voters - Red River Valley Chapter  
Mankato Area Environmentalists  
Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy  
Minnesota Conservation Federation  
Minnesota Ornithologists' Union  
Minnesota Renewable Energy Society  
Minnesota State University Student Wildlife Society  
Neighbors Against the Burner  
Renewing the Countryside  
Sierra Club North Star Chapter  
Sierra Club, Red River Valley Chapter

Sierra Club, Red River Valley Chapter  
St. Paul Audubon Society Chapter  
Student Environmental Alliance - Concordia College  
Take Back the Air  
Transit for Livable Communities  
Vicki Teske, MS, GNP, BC  
Will Steger Foundation  
Windustry  
Women's Environmental Institute  
Zimmer Environmental Improvement LLC

### **Mississippi**

American Lung Association in Mississippi

### **Missouri**

American Lung Association in Missouri  
Concerned Citizens of Perryville  
Environment Missouri  
Missouri Votes Conservation  
StraightUp Solar

### **Montana**

American Lung Association in Montana  
Climate Solutions  
Environment Montana  
Montana Audubon  
Montana Environmental Information Center  
Montana Nurses Association  
Plains Justice  
RiverStone Health  
Western Organization of Resource Councils

### **Nebraska**

American Lung Association in Nebraska

### **Nevada**

American Lung Association in Nevada  
Environment Nevada  
Nevada Conservation League  
Nevada Public Health Association  
Nevada State Medical Association  
Pulmonary Medicine Associates  
Pulmonary Medicine Associates, Reno Nevada

### **New Hampshire**

American Lung Association in New Hampshire  
Children's Alliance of New Hampshire  
Conservation Law Foundation  
Green Alliance  
Greenovations  
New Hampshire Audubon  
New Hampshire Pediatric Society  
Revolution Energy, LLC  
Toxics Action Center

### **New Jersey**

American Lung Association in New Jersey  
Center for the Sublime Arts  
Environment New Jersey  
National Center for Bicycling & Walking  
New Jersey Thoracic Society  
NJ/NY Environmental Watch

## **New Mexico**

American Lung Association in New Mexico  
Environment New Mexico  
WildEarth Guardians

## **New York**

Adirondack Mountain Club  
American Lung Association in New York  
Citizens Campaign for the Environment  
Citizens' Environmental Coalition  
Clean Air Coalition of Western New York  
Clean New York  
Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJL)  
Education for Global Warming Solutions  
Environmental Advocates of New York  
Federated Conservationists of Westchester County  
Grassroots Environmental Education  
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.  
Natural Resources Defense Council, (NRDC)  
New York Interfaith Power & Light  
New York League of Conservation Voters  
New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG)  
New York Thoracic Society  
NYC Environmental Justice Alliance  
Pace Energy and Climate Center  
Renewable Energy Long Island  
West Harlem Environmental Action  
Women's Environment and Development Organization

## **North Carolina**

American Lung Association in North Carolina  
Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League  
Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation  
Charlotte Energy Solutions  
Clean Air Carolina  
Cleveland County Asthma Coalition  
Health Occupations Students of America  
Mecklenburg County Medical Society  
Media Savvy Marketing, Inc  
NC Conservation Network  
NC League of Conservation Voters  
NC Waste Awareness & Reduction Network  
North Carolina Interfaith Power and Light  
North Carolina Pediatric Society  
Pitt County Memorial Hospital  
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy  
The Canary Coalition  
Western North Carolina Alliance

## **North Dakota**

American Lung Association in North Dakota  
Dakota Resource Council  
Dakota Resource Council Clean Energy Task Force  
Environmental Law & Policy Center  
Grand Forks County Citizen Coalition  
Institute for Complementary & Alternative Medicine  
Sisters of the Presentation, Fargo  
South Agassiz Resource Council  
Western Organization of Resource Councils

## **Ohio**

All Aboard Ohio  
American Lung Association in Ohio  
Buckeye Forest Council  
Earth Day Coalition  
Environment Ohio  
Environmental Law & Policy Center  
GreenCityBlueLake Institute  
Heights Community Congress  
New Agrarian Center  
Ohio Asthma Coalition  
Ohio Environmental Council  
Ohio Society for Respiratory Care

## **Oklahoma**

American Lung Association in Oklahoma

## **Oregon**

American Lung Association in Oregon  
Climate Solutions  
Environment Oregon  
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Oregon Environmental Council  
Oregon Interfaith Power and Light  
Oregon Thoracic Society  
The Resource Innovation Group  
Western Organization of Resource Councils

## **Pennsylvania**

Allergy and Immunology Interest Group at Penn State College of Medicine  
Allergy Section Penn State University  
American Lung Association in Pennsylvania  
Center for Creative Activities  
Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future (PennFuture)  
Clean Air Council  
Conservation Consultants, Inc.  
Conservation Voters of Pennsylvania  
Democracia Inc.  
DRMIII Ride For Asthma  
Eartright  
Edifice Rx  
Energy Opportunites, Inc.  
Family Health Council of Central PA, Inc.  
Fourth Economy Consulting  
Gettysburg Hospital- WellSpan Health  
Group Against Smog & Pollution  
Healthy Adams County Tobacco Prevention Task Force  
Healthy Communities Partnership of Greater Franklin County  
HMJ PATCH Program  
iGrok, Inc.  
Northern Dauphin County Branch YMCA  
PA Association of School Nurses and Practitioners  
PA Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics  
PA Public Health Association  
PennEnvironment  
Pennsylvania Coalition of Nurse Practitioners  
Pennsylvania Society for Respiratory Care  
Pennsylvania State Nurses Association  
Pennsylvania Thoracic Society

Philadelphia Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Physicians for Social Responsibility - Pittsburgh  
Practical Energy Solutions  
PrePEAR  
Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia  
Pulmonary Associates, PC  
Reed Group  
Sierra Club, SE PA Group  
Sisters of Mercy, Mid-Atlantic Justice Office  
Students for Environmental Action  
Sustainable Pittsburgh  
The Center for the Celebration of Creation  
Untours

#### **Rhode Island**

American Lung Association in Rhode Island  
Conservation Law Foundation  
Environment Rhode Island  
People's Power & Light  
ProsperityForRI.org  
Rhode Island Thoracic Society

#### **South Carolina**

American Lung Association in South Carolina  
Coastal Conservation League  
Conservation Voters of South Carolina  
New Rosemont Homeowners Association  
South Carolina Native Plant Society  
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy  
Trinity Episcopal Church, Abbeville, SC

#### **South Dakota**

American Lung Association in South Dakota  
Dakota Resource Council  
Environmental Law & Policy Center  
Western Organization of Resource Councils

#### **Tennessee**

American Lung Association in Tennessee  
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy  
TN Conservation Voters

#### **Texas**

Air Alliance Houston  
American Lung Association in Texas  
Argyle-Bartonville Communities Alliance  
Dallas Downriver Club  
Downwinders at Risk  
Environment Texas  
Flower Mound Defense Fund  
Old Town Neighborhood Association

Texas League of Conservation Voters

#### **Utah**

American Lung Association in Utah  
Breathe Utah  
Utah Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics  
Utah Moms for Clean Air  
Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment  
Wasatch Clean Air Coalition

#### **Vermont**

American Lung Association in Vermont  
Conservation Law Foundation  
Idle-Free VT Inc.

#### **Virginia**

American Lung Association in Virginia  
Center for Health, Environment & Justice  
Chesapeake Climate Action Network  
Environment Virginia  
Health Care Without Harm  
National Association for Medical Direction of  
Respiratory Care  
The Nature Conservancy  
Virginia League of Conservation Voters

#### **Washington**

American Lung Association in Washington  
Climate Solutions  
Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power & Light  
Environment Washington  
World Temperate Rainforest Network

#### **West Virginia**

American Lung Association in West Virginia  
Northern WV Occ. & Env. Evaluations, LLC

#### **Wisconsin**

American Lung Association in Wisconsin  
Environmental Law & Policy Center  
Milwaukee Latino Health Coalition  
Wisconsin Asthma Coalition  
Wisconsin Environment  
Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters

#### **Wyoming**

American Lung Association in Wyoming  
Western Organization of Resource Councils  
Wyoming Conservation Voters  
Wyoming Outdoor Council