

January 20, 2010

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski:

The agricultural organizations listed below support your introduction of a resolution 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 Senate approval of your resolution.

Sincerely,

Alabama Soybean Association  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Feed Industry Association  
American Hereford Association  
American Mushroom Institute  
American National CattleWomen  
American Nursery and Landscape Association  
American Soybean Association  
American Sugarbeet Growers Association  
Arizona Cattle Feeders Association  
Arkansas Cattlemen's Association  
Arkansas Rice Federation  
Arkansas Soybean Association  
Blue Diamond Growers  
California Citrus Mutual  
California Cotton Ginners Association

California Cotton Growers Association  
California Grape & Tree Fruit League  
Colorado Cattlemen's Association  
Colorado Livestock Association  
Colorado Potato Administrative Committee  
Corn Producers Association of Texas  
Cotton Warehouse Association of America  
Dairy Farmers of America, Inc.  
Delta Council  
Florida Cattlemen's Association  
Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association  
Georgia Cattlemen's Association  
Georgia Cotton Commission  
Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association  
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  
 Minnesota Corn Growers Association  
 Minnesota Soybean Association  
 Mississippi Cattlemen's Association  
 Missouri Soybean Association  
 Montana Stockgrower's Association  
 National Association of Wheat Growers  
 National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
 National Chicken Council  
 National Corn Growers Association  
 National Cotton Council  
 National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
 National Milk Producers Federation  
 National Renderers Association  
 National Pork Producers Council  
 National Potato Council  
 National Sorghum Producers  
 National Turkey Federation  
 Nebraska Cattlemen  
 Nebraska Corn Growers Association  
 Nebraska Dry Bean Growers Association  
 Nebraska Soybean Association  
 Nebraska Wheat Board  
 Nebraska Wheat Growers Association  
 New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association  
 New Mexico Federal Lands Council  
 New Mexico Wool Growers, Inc.  
 North Carolina Cotton Producers Association  
 North Carolina Peanut Growers Association  
 Ohio Cattlemen's Association  
 Ohio Soybean Association  
 Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association  
 Oklahoma Cotton Council  
 Oregon Association of Nurseries  
 Oregon Potato Commission  
 Peanut Growers Cooperative Marketing Association  
 Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association  
 Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.  
 Sandyland Water Conservation District  
 Select Milk Producers  
 SJV Quality Cotton Growers Association  
 Society of American Florists  
 South Dakota Agri-Business Association  
 South Dakota Farm Bureau  
 South Dakota Cattlemen's Association  
 South Dakota Grain & Feed Association  
 South Dakota Wheat Inc.  
 South Dakota Corn Growers 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  
 Texas Agriculture Cooperative Council  
 Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association  
 Texas Association of Agriculture Consultants  
 Texas Association of Dairymen  
 Texas Cattle Feeders Association  
 Texas Citrus Mutual  
 Texas Cotton Ginner Association  
 Texas Independent Ginners Association  
 Texas Food Producers Association  
 Texas Forestry Association  
 Texas Grain & Feed 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  
 Tennessee Soybean Association  
 The Family Farm Alliance  
 United Egg Producers  
 United Fresh Produce Association  
 United States Beet Sugar Association  
 U.S. Apple Association  
 U.S. Rice Producers Association  
 USA Rice Federation  
 Utah Cattlemen's Association  
 Virginia Cattlemen's Association  
 Virginia Peanut Growers Association  
 Washington State Potato Commission  
 Western Growers  
 Western Agricultural Processors Association  
 Western Peanut Growers Association  
 Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association  
 Wisconsin Soybean Association