

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  
American Veal 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 and Grain Producers of the Lower Rio Grande Valley  
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  
Northeast Dairy Cooperative  
Ohio Cattlemen's Association  
Ohio Soybean Association  
Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association  
Oklahoma Cotton Council  
Oregon Association of Nurseries  
Oregon Cattlemen's Association  
Oregon Potato Commission  
Peanut Growers Cooperative Marketing Association  
Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association  
Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.  
Public Lands Council  
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 Agricultural 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