

32BJ SEIU • The Adirondack Council • Adirondack Mountain Club •
Alliance for Clean Energy New York • Alliance for a Green Economy •
Capital District Against Fracking • Center for Working Families • Citizen Action of New York •
Citizens Campaign for the Environment • Citizens' Environmental Coalition •
Citizens for Local Power • Clean Air Coalition of WNY • Clean and Healthy New York •
Community Power for Health and Justice • Community Voices Heard • El Puente •
Environment New York • Environmental Advocates of New York •
Environmental Defense Fund • Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc. •
Huntington Breast Cancer Coalition • Long Island Pine Barrens Society •
National Wildlife Federation • Natural Resources Defense Council •
New York Interfaith Power & Light • New York League of Conservation Voters •
New York State Nurses Association • NYPIRG • Protect the Adirondacks •
Renewable Energy Long Island • Riverkeeper • Working Families Organization

June 19, 2015

Members of the New York Congressional Delegation:

We, the undersigned, write to express our opposition to H.R. 2042, which blocks the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposal to safeguard our communities from the impacts of power plant carbon pollution. We respectfully request you to oppose and vote against this legislation.

The bill by Representative Whitfield (KY) thwarts EPA's efforts to address climate pollution from power plants by blocking the agency's ability to implement the Clean Power Plan's limits on carbon emissions for an indefinite period of time. H.R. 2042 also encourages Governors to disregard the Clean Air Act and eliminates the EPA's authority to develop federal implementation plans for states that fail to act on carbon standards.

The changing climate is a serious threat to New York's economic security, safety and public health; subjecting communities to life-threatening pollution and the devastating impacts of extreme weather events. The state has responded by implementing measures aimed at significantly reducing the energy sector's share of climate pollution through its participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and the passing of legislation establishing carbon limits for newly constructed power plants – standards even stronger than those proposed by the EPA. These actions have demonstrated that it is possible to set limits on climate pollution while spurring economic growth. The time has come for the rest of the nation to put standards in place like those that exist here.

The EPA's Clean Power Plan is designed to provide states with an opportunity to replicate New York's actions to address climate pollution. The Whitfield bill (H.R. 2042) blocks progress by giving recalcitrant states a range of ways to avoid or ignore implementation of the Clean Power Plan.

We urge you to join us in opposition to this damaging bill by casting your vote against H.R. 2042 and working with your colleagues and the EPA to advance policies to address the breadth of challenges driven by climate pollution.

Sincerely,

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