

**350.org * Alaska Wilderness League * American Rivers * Center for Biological Diversity
Clean Water Action * Defenders of Wildlife * Earthjustice * Environment America
Environmental Law and Policy Center * Food & Water Watch * Greenpeace USA
Interfaith Power & Light * League of Conservation Voters
National Parks Conservation Association * Natural Resources Defense Council
Oil Change International * Partnership for Policy Integrity * Public Citizen * Sierra Club
Southern Environmental Law Center * Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance
The Wilderness Society * Voices for Progress**

June 21, 2016

Dear Senator,

On behalf of our millions of members and supporters, we urge you to oppose any motion to agree to conference on the House-passed amendment to S.2012.

America needs a forward-thinking, bipartisan update to our nation's energy policies. Yet, the legislation sent over from the House of Representatives undermines the progress our nation needs. Their amendment substituted a bipartisan energy bill with a long list of extreme ideological provisions that would take us backwards on many of our critical environmental priorities. It undermines many of our current protections including those secured under the National Environmental Policy Act, the Clean Air Act, the Equal Access to Justice Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and other key laws.

For these reasons and more, the House-passed package was opposed by more than 200 environmental and conservation groups, state governments, and Native American tribes. The Obama administration has already stated its strong opposition to numerous policy provisions in the bill, and has gone so far as to threaten a veto on many of the major pieces of legislation that comprise the amendment package. Troubling provisions include an energy efficiency title that actually weakens energy efficiency standards, deep cuts to Department of Energy-supported research and development under the Advanced Research Project Agency-Energy (ARPA-E), and the rubber stamping of new pipelines through national parks.

We appreciate your efforts to return to regular order and work across party lines on energy policy. But process isn't the same as progress. The House-passed amendment would undoubtedly take our country down the wrong track and contains so many controversial and problematic provisions it is impossible to see how agreement could be found. Rejecting a conference with the current House offer is essential to protect against harm to our environment.

Again, we urge you to oppose any motion to agree to conference on the House-passed amendment to S.2012.

Thank you for your consideration,

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