

April 6, 2011

United States Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
393 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**RE: Small business opposition to efforts to undermine the Clean Air Act and EPA standards**

Dear Senator Casey,

We, the undersigned business owners, represent diverse sectors of the economy. We recognize that over the last 40 years, the Environmental Protection Agency has proven itself as much a protector of our economy as of the public's health, and we see new EPA standards under the Clean Air Act as a key component to progressing toward a clean energy economy and to creating jobs.

We know that small business owners support key strategies needed to reduce pollution and transition to a clean energy economy. A national poll of small business owners conducted by Small Business Majority found that 61 percent of respondents agree that moving the country to clean energy is a way to restart the economy and make their businesses more competitive in the global economy. Numerous small businesses are already taking steps to conserve energy and many are interested in doing even more.

Larger businesses also support EPA's authority under the Clean Air Act and understand that it has spurred innovation and economic value for the US. The list includes some of the most trusted consumer brands in America, including eBay, Stonyfield Farm and the entire Outdoor Industry Association.

Despite its success, some in Congress are seeking to undermine EPA's authority to enforce the Clean Air Act, when they should instead focus on passing legislation that will create jobs and boost business opportunities for employers across the nation. Contrary to misleading claims from opponents of clean energy and environmental safeguards, reducing pollution is good for business, and the Clean Air Act has proven to be a wise investment for long-term economic growth.

Studies show that the economic benefits of the Act have far exceeded the costs to businesses. According to the Office of Management and Budget, the total economic benefits of the Clean Air Act are estimated at more than four to eight times the costs of compliance. Additionally, between 2010 and 2015, capital investments in pollution controls and new generation will

create an estimated 1.46 million jobs or almost 300,000 year-round jobs on average for each of those five years.

We urge you to support EPA's mission and to reject efforts to block, delay or weaken new standards under the Clean Air Act. Owners of both small and large businesses want real clean energy solutions that will create long-term economic growth and ignite a new era of American innovation.

Sincerely,

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