March 10, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid
United States Senate
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Reid:

The American Legislative Exchange Council is alarmed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)’s plan to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act (CAA). We are encouraged by efforts such as the bipartisan resolution S.J. Res. 26 introduced by Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) and Senator Blanche Lincoln (D-Ark.) to prevent the EPA from this action.

The Clean Air Act is ill-suited for the purpose of regulating greenhouse gases as evidenced, in part, by the EPA’s Tailoring Rule itself which attempts to limit the draconian impact of their efforts by substituting new thresholds for those enumerated in law. The hope is to delay regulation for small emission sources, but the truth is both large and small emission sources in most states will be required to comply under current laws. Despite this attempted fix, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson has repeatedly acknowledged that the Obama administration would prefer that Congress, not the EPA, decide what, if any, rules should apply to greenhouse gas emissions.

America’s economic recovery depends on affordable energy to sustain growth and re-employ workers. EPA’s proposed regulatory approach is directly at odds with economic growth and job creation at a time in this country when both are desperately needed.

Allowing EPA to proceed with this regulatory approach in the absence of the people’s directive through their elected members of Congress is tantamount to allowing unelected bureaucrats to determine the legislative agenda. Congress must not allow the EPA to dictate its priorities, and S. J. Res. 26 will ensure that the EPA’s rule will not destroy our economic recovery and the jobs that depend on it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rep. David Wolkins
Indiana House District 18
Co-Chair, ALEC Natural Resources Task Force

cc: All U.S. Senators
Rep. John Adams  
Ohio House District 78

Rep. Ron Amstutz  
Ohio House District 3

Asm. Joel Anderson  
California Assembly District 77

Rep. Wesley Belter  
North Dakota House District 22

Rep. Walt Bivins  
Missouri House District 97

Sen. Leo Blais  
Rhode Island Senate District 21

Rep. Louis Blessing  
Ohio House District 29

Sen. Karin Brownlee  
Kansas Senate District 23

Rep. Les Carmine  
Arkansas House District 94

Rep. Harry Cato  
South Carolina House District 17

Rep. Gregory Clark  
Vermont House District Addison-3

Rep. Ann Clemmer  
Arkansas House District 29

Rep. George Cleveland  
North Carolina House District 14

Rep. Stanley Cox  
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Rep. Betty De Boef  
Iowa House District 76

Rep. Noble Ellington  
Louisiana House District 20

Rep. Ed Emery  
Missouri House District 126

Rep. Jane English  
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Sen. Jeff Essmann  
Montana Senate District 28

Rep. Clay Ford  
Florida House District 3

Sen. Steve French  
Alabama Senate District 15

Sen. Bob Gibbs  
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Rep. Jimmie Hall  
New Mexico House District 28

Rep. Mike Harmon  
Kentucky House District 54

Rep. Frank Henderson  
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Minority Leader Dennis Hollingsworth  
California Senate District 36

Rep. David Howard  
Montana House District 60

Speaker Bill Howell  
Virginia House District 28
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Kansas Senate District 10

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