

Dear Member of Congress:

The science is irrefutable. Our climate is changing and human activity is contributing to this change in a significant way. In the coming months and years many proposals will be put forth designed to solve the climate crisis. We are concerned because the future work and lives of our members are at stake, and we look forward to working with Congressional leaders to address the crisis.

**As leaders of a variety of labor organizations, we write to encourage your strong support of a renewable energy standard (RES) in any proposed energy legislation. This is the most important first step we can take in solving the climate crisis and we need to take this step sooner rather than later.**

**The RES will contribute greatly to reduced carbon emission, and will be THE MOST IMPORTANT JOB-CREATING MEASURE CONSIDERED BY CONGRESS! We are actively working to build support and await your decision on this important issue.**

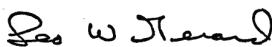
From the experience at the state level, we already know the job benefits produced by RES policies. In Pennsylvania, Gamesa, a large Spanish manufacturer of wind turbines built four plants outside of Philadelphia to assemble wind energy equipment for use in the U.S. One thousand American steelworkers are now employed by Gamesa on the site of a former steel mill.

Currently, Germany employs over 40,000 workers in its wind energy industry and Denmark another 20,000. Both of these countries have wind resources that are only a fraction of that in the state of Minnesota alone. In Germany, the wind energy industry is now the second largest consumer of steel next to the automotive industry.

A recent study completed by the Renewable Energy Policy Project indicates that an RES in the 15–20% range has the potential of creating 850,000 new jobs in component part manufacturing, thus revitalizing many of our devastated heartland communities.

Moreover, if we fail to address the climate crisis, the jobs of our current members will be at risk due to the huge economic impact of climate change (predicted depression—Sir Nicholas Stern report, Oct. 2006), and due to altered coastal geography.

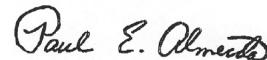
On behalf of the working people of our organizations, we urge each member of Congress to take this most important step in supporting a clean energy economy.



Leo W. Gerard  
International President  
United Steelworkers



Larry Cohen  
President  
Communications Workers of America



Paul Almeida  
President  
Department for Professional Employees,  
AFL-CIO

AN ENERGY BILL FOR AMERICA'S FUTURE

15% Renewable Electricity Standard spurs investment and creates jobs.