



June 16, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leaders McCarthy & McConnell:

We write to you on behalf of our collective 15 million members across the country to make clear that to meet this critical moment, any infrastructure package(s) or legislative action on the American Jobs Plan must prioritize bold, ambitious, and swift measures to tackle the climate crisis and address longstanding environmental injustices.

The stakes are enormous. Failure to act at the scale that science and justice require will mean more health and environmental costs for individuals, communities and taxpayers, and more lives and communities devastated and destroyed by wildfires, extreme weather events, infectious diseases, and the deterioration of ecosystems that we depend on for food, employment, and recreation.

Our groups cannot support policies that continue to allow increases in the pollution that drives climate change or increases economic and environmental inequity for communities of color, indigenous, and low-wealth communities. We must put this country firmly on track toward the 100% net zero carbon economy with good quality jobs that the President has committed to; the very same goal that scientists tell us is necessary to meet within the decade.

We are eager to support efforts that ensure transformational progress that reflect the science and the moral imperative for people and the planet in this critical moment. And we look forward to continuing to work with you on this most important endeavor to get the job done in the coming weeks and months.

Respectfully,

Mitchell Bernard
President & Chief Counsel, Natural Resources Defense Council

Michael Brune
Executive Director, Sierra Club

Johanna Chao Kreilick
President, Union of Concerned Scientists

Abbie Dillen
President, Earthjustice

Gene Karpinski
President, League of Conservation Voters

Fred Krupp
President, Environmental Defense Fund

Collin O'Mara
President & CEO, National Wildlife Federation

John Podesta
Founder & Chair of the Board of Directors, Center for American Progress

Elena Rios
President & CEO, National Hispanic Medical Association

Peggy Shepard
Co-Founder & Executive Director, WE ACT for Environmental Justice

Tom Steyer
Founder, NextGen America

Cc: U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Senate