



the Jane Goodall Institute

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October 15, 2013

Governor Jerry Brown
c/o State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown, *Jerry.*

It has been more than two years since we last met in your office. I hope this letter finds you and your family well – including Sutter.

You may remember that we spoke about California's important potential role in protecting tropical forests, including the animal and plant species that live there and the human communities that depend on the forests to survive. I understand that, since we last met, implementation of the California cap-and-trade program has begun.

As your administration continues to roll out the program, I hope that you will include international tropical forest protection projects, including REDD+ projects, as permissible offsets. While the international political process of formalizing REDD+ is taking time, in the last few years, significant advances have been made on the design of REDD+ projects on the ground. Specific solutions and safeguards have been developed to address such issues as land tenure rights of people living in and around the forests. We are pleased with the progress in this area – it is urgent that all people and the environment feel a positive impact from these efforts.

Americans look to California as a leader on environmental issues, and I know that you have continued building upon this reputation through many climate-related initiatives. It is imperative that California, as one of the world's largest economies, demonstrate its commitment to a global approach to addressing climate change.

As you know, I have spent much of my life working to understand and protect chimpanzees, our closest living relatives. REDD+ and similar carbon reduction projects are one of the recent developments that have given me hope because they provide financial incentives to protect chimpanzee habitat, and thus an alternative to the many economic pressures to destroy it. Only by directing investment toward protecting these forests can we ensure that they are used sustainably. We have to find ways to improve the lives of forest communities and provide some revenue for the government, so that both benefit. Only in this way can we protect the forests so that they continue to safeguard the global climate and thus people everywhere, well into the future.

I hope you agree with me, and with the thousands of scientists and scores of major environmental organizations in your state, that it is critical for California's companies to have the option of investing in overseas climate-related forest protection projects as part of their overall plan to reduce their carbon emissions.

As always, I very much appreciate your creative thinking and openness to innovative ideas that help solve complex problems.

I hope that it will be possible to talk face to face again, at some future date.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jane". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "J" that loops back under the name.

Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE
Founder, the Jane Goodall Institute &
UN Messenger of Peace

Cc:

Matt Rodriguez, Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency
Mary Nichols, Chair of the California Air Resources Board
Senator Fran Pavley, California State Senate