President Barack Obama The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

Congratulations on your reelection.

Thank you for repeatedly raising the threat of climate change as you have outlined your priorities for your second term, starting with your Nov. 7 speech in Chicago. As you said during the campaign, "Climate change is not a hoax. More drought and floods and hurricanes and wildfires are not a joke. They're a threat to our children's future. And we can do something about it."

We couldn't agree more. Climate change threatens the health of our families, our communities and our planet. It is the great challenge of our time and our response will leave an historic legacy.

We urge you to continue underscoring the threat of climate change with the American people and to build on the historic vehicle standards and other progress you made during your first term by taking three decisive steps to curb dangerous carbon pollution:

- Raise your voice. Elevate the issue of climate disruption and climate solutions in the
 public discourse. Connect the dots between carbon pollution and extreme weather, and
 lead the public discussion of what we need to do as a nation to both prepare for the
 changes in climate that are no longer avoidable and avoid changes in climate that are
 unacceptable.
- 2. Use your executive authority. You have the authority under existing law to achieve urgently needed reductions in the carbon pollution that is disrupting our climate and damaging our health. Most significantly, you can set standards that cut carbon pollution from America's aging power plant fleet at least 25 percent by 2020 while boosting energy efficiency and shifting to clean energy sources. Power plants are our largest source of carbon pollution and you have the authority and responsibility to clean them up under the Clean Air Act. This will create tens of thousands of clean energy jobs, meet the pollution targets you set for the country, and restore U.S. international leadership.
- 3. Reject dirty fuels. We should not pursue dirty fuels like tar sands when climate science tells us that 80 percent of existing fossil fuel reserves need to be kept in the ground. More specifically, the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline is not in our national interest because it would unlock vast amounts of additional carbon that we can't afford to burn, extend our dangerous addiction to fossil fuels, endanger health and safety, and put critical water resources at risk.

Hurricane Sandy made it tragically clear that many communities are extremely vulnerable to climate change. We can and we must build back better—with investment in sustainable infrastructure, not the kind of carbon-intensive development that helped drive this problem in the first place.

Cutting carbon pollution at home and rejecting dirty fuels will establish America's leadership and credibility, enabling you to create clean energy jobs in the United States while forging an effective international coalition to cut global carbon pollution. We urge you to elevate climate solutions to the top tier of your domestic agenda and America's bilateral and global diplomatic priorities.

We pledge to work with you every step of the way to secure a healthy future.

Mr. President, you have the power and the support you need to tackle the climate crisis. Your leadership can establish a new American legacy we can all be proud of.

Sincerely,

Bill McKibben	President	350.org
Mary Fifield	Co-Chair	Amazon Partnerships Foundation
Scott Steen	CEO	American Forests
Wm. Robert Irvin	President	American Rivers
Mildred Real	CEO	American Verde
Patricia Dudley	President	Bethel Heights Vineyard
Angus Duncan	President	Bonneville Environmental
		Foundation & Chair, Oregon Global
		Warming Commission
Mindy S. Lubber	President & CEO	Ceres
Robert Wendelgass	President	Clean Water Action
Ellen Ingmells	Co-Director	Climate Justice League
Gregg Small	Executive Director	Climate Solutions
Jamie Rappaport Clark	President & CEO	Defenders of Wildlife
Stuart Liebowitz	Convener	Douglas County Global Warming
		Coalition
Kathleen Rogers	President	Earth Day Network
Trip Van Noppen	President	Earthjustice
Tom Athanasiou	Executive Director	EcoEquity, USA
Maura Cowley	Executive Director	Energy Action Coalition
Margie Alt	Executive Director	Environment America
Carol Werner	Executive Director	Environmental & Energy Study Institute
Fred Krupp	President	Environmental Defense Fund
Michael Noble	Executive Director	Fresh Energy
Erich Pica	President	Friends of the Earth U.S.
Bob Dingethal	Executive Director	Gifford Pinchot Task Force
Mike Clark	Executive Director	Greater Yellowstone Coalition

Phil Radford Executive Director Greenpeace

Gary Cohen Executive Director Healthcare Without Harm Kimberly Baker Forest & Wildlife Advocate Klamath Forest Alliance

Stephanie Tidwell Executive Director Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center

Tom Kelly Director KyotoUSA

Joe UehleinPresidentLabor Network for SustainabilityGene KapinskiPresidentLeague of Conservation VotersElisabeth MacNamaraPresidentLeague of Women Voters

Rob Garrity Executive Director Massachusetts Climate Action Network

David Yarnold President & CEO National Audubon Society

Ai-jen Poo Director National Domestic Workers Alliance

Thomas C. Kiernan President National Parks Conservation

Association

Kesner Flores Executive Director National Tribal Environmental Council

Larry Schweiger CEO National Wildlife Federation
John Echohawk Executive Director Native American Rights Fund

Frances Beinecke President Natural Resources Defense Council

Sara Patton Executive Director Northwest Energy Coalition

Andrew Sharpless Chief Executive Officer Oceana

Steve Kretzmann Executive Director Oil Change International
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Kathleen Newman Co-Chair Oregonians for Renewable Energy

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Will Rogers President & CEO The Trust for Public Land

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