



LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

January 8, 2014

United States House
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Oppose H.R. 2279—Endangers Public Health, Protects Polluters and Delays Cleanups of Hazardous Waste Sites

Dear Representative:

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) works to turn environmental values into national priorities. Each year, LCV publishes the *National Environmental Scorecard*, which details the voting records of members of Congress on environmental legislation. The *Scorecard* is distributed to LCV members, concerned voters nationwide and the media.

LCV urges you to vote NO on H.R. 2279, the Reducing Excessive Deadline Obligations Act of 2013, a package of three extreme bills that would significantly reduce the number of cleanups of toxic waste sites, putting communities and the environment at risk through increased exposure to dangerous pollutants. The bill's proposals weaken the Superfund law (the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the law governing the disposal of hazardous wastes.

This reckless legislation would increase exposure to pollutants, limit liability for polluters, and waste taxpayer dollars. H.R. 2279 is a combination of three bills: The Reducing Excessive Deadline Obligations Act of 2013 (H.R. 2279); The Federal and State Partnership for Environmental Protection Act of 2013 (H.R. 2226); and The Federal Facility Accountability Act of 2013 (H.R.2318).

This package of bills jeopardizes the health of communities surrounding the most dangerous toxic waste sites in the nation by delaying, and in some cases potentially preventing, the cleanup of these sites. The bill transfers the financial burden of cleaning up Superfund sites from the polluter to the federal government and taxpayers, and decreases overall funding for cleaning hazardous sites; all of which will delay remediation and increase exposure to toxic chemicals for nearby populations. This legislation proposes unnecessary and overreaching roadblocks and red tape for processes to clean up sites that directly affect the health and livelihoods of citizens across the country.

We urge you to REJECT H.R. 2279, which endangers public health, wastes taxpayer dollars, and shields polluters from paying the cost of cleaning up Superfund sites. We will strongly consider including votes on this bill in the 2014 Scorecard. If you need more information, please call Tiernan Sittenfeld, Ashley Friedman or Sara Chieffo in my office at (202) 785-8683.

Sincerely,

Gene Karpinski
President