



LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

July 8, 2014

United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Oppose H.R. 4923, the FY15 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill and All Anti-Environmental Amendments

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. 4923, the FY15 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill. This legislation moves us backward on energy and environmental policy by slashing funding for renewable energy and energy efficiency while boosting funding for polluting, mature fossil fuel and nuclear generation technologies. The bill also contains dirty water policy riders that threaten the waters Americans depend on for drinking, swimming, fishing, and flood protection. LCV urges you to oppose all anti-environmental policy riders that jeopardize our health and the environment, including those that would prevent action to combat carbon pollution by undermining the president's Climate Action Plan.

Across the country, clean energy is providing new jobs, decreasing air and water pollution, saving consumers money, and helping to combat dangerous climate change that threatens our future. Yet, H.R. 4923 doubles down on the failed energy policies of the past by cutting funding for renewable energy and energy efficiency programs and increasing funding for fossil fuels that emit dangerous carbon pollution. As costs to governments and citizens from climate change-fueled extreme weather events like prolonged heat waves, more severe droughts, and an extended season of wildfires continue to rise, we should be increasing investment in cleaner technologies, not encouraging more production of dirty fossil fuels.

The bill also includes two harmful water policy riders. The first would prohibit the Army Corps of Engineers from moving forward with their draft Clean Water Rule (Waters of the United States) that would protect small streams and wetlands that provide flood protection, filter pollution, and contribute to the drinking water for 117 million Americans. The second would prohibit the Army Corps from updating the definition of "fill material," which would allow mining companies to continue to dump toxic mining waste into mountain streams. We urge support for any amendments that strike these harmful provisions. We also expect attempts on the floor to add even more amendments that attack our important environmental protections. These policy riders should not be included in a spending bill, and they put the health and safety of Americans and our environment at risk.

We urge you to REJECT H.R. 4923, a harmful spending bill that prioritizes the dirty energies of the past over the clean energies of our future and OPPOSE any anti-environmental amendments, including those that attack the EPA's ability to limit carbon pollution from power plants. We will strongly consider including votes on this bill in the 2014 Scorecard. If you need more information, please call Tiernan Sittenfeld, Sara Chieffo or Alex Taurel in my office at (202) 785-8683.

Sincerely,

Gene Karpinski
President