



LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

June 27, 2016

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Oppose the Motion to Agree to Conference on the House-passed amendment to S.2012

Dear Senator:

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 the motion to conference on S. 2012, the House amendment to the Energy Policy Modernization Act. While the Senate energy package was a bipartisan compromise and the result of many months of hard work by Senators Cantwell and Murkowski, the House version is radical giveaway to polluting fossil fuel industries that would also undermine the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, and other bedrock environmental laws. It does not represent a serious starting point for any negotiation that will lead to a positive bill that truly modernizes the energy policy of the United States.

The House amendment to S.2012 is a sweeping package that fails to include the most positive provisions in the Senate energy bill, including the reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), energy efficiency provisions, and needed funding for clean energy. Instead, it includes the following bills, many of which the Obama administration has previously said it would veto:

- H.R. 8, the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act, which contains efficiency provisions that would increase energy use and costs to consumers, a hydropower title that curtails NEPA review along with state, local, and tribal authority over projects on their own lands, allows pipelines to be built on National Park land without the necessary environmental reviews, and provisions that could lock in dirty fossil energy for decades to come at a time that we should be investing in cleaner, cheaper alternatives.
- H.R.538, the Native American Energy Act, which would limit public involvement in energy projects on tribal lands.
- H.R.1937, the National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act, which weakens environmental review for the hardrock mining industry and jeopardizes the water quality of nearby communities.
- H.R.2406, the SHARE Act, which threatens wildlife and public lands while undermining our bedrock environmental protections.
- H.R.2647, the Resilient Federal Forests Act of 2015, which would legislatively promote devastating logging projects and subvert environmental review.
- H.R.2898, the Western Water and American Food Security Act, which weakens protections for salmon, migratory birds, and other fish and wildlife in California's Bay-Delta estuary and threatens the jobs that depend on the health of these species.

- H.R.1806, the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2015, which would undermine investments in science and federal research and development.

We urge you to REJECT any motion to conference the Senate energy bill with the extreme anti-environmental House-passed legislation and will strongly consider including votes on this bill in the 2016 Scorecard. If you need more information, please call my office at (202) 785-8683 and ask to speak with a member of our government relations team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gene Karpinski". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gene Karpinski
President