



LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

March 24, 2015

Re: Oppose the House and Senate FY16 Budget Resolutions

Dear Member of Congress:

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 House (Price) and Senate (Enzi) fiscal year 2016 budget resolutions which irresponsibly slash investments that grow our economy and benefit all Americans—like clean air, clean water, and open spaces—at the expense of rewarding special interests like Big Oil. We also urge you to vote against further efforts during the budget debate—whether in the form of amendments or substitute legislation—that weaken environmental protections that average Americans count on.

These budgets make drastic cuts to non-military investments that would harm our economy and jeopardize the ability of the Environmental Protection Agency, Interior Department, Energy Department and other agencies to fulfill their mission to protect our health, safeguard our natural resources, and grow clean energy. These cuts ignore the harm the sequester poses to our economy and to our environment.

While reducing benefits for average Americans, these budget resolutions make sure to reward special interests like Big Oil. These pieces of legislation continue the billions of dollars in subsidies handed out every year to the oil industry and lower Big Oil's tax bill even further by reducing corporate tax rates. The budgets call for more of our treasured public lands to be drilled at the expense of everyday Americans who use these landscapes to drive our \$646 billion recreational economy. These budgets reflect a shirking of our moral obligation to address the scientific reality of climate change and force Big Oil and other polluters to change the way they do business to mitigate climate's impacts on Americans across the country. Instead of doubling down on dirty energy sources, Congress should be investing in clean energy and the good jobs it creates.

We urge you to REJECT the House and Senate FY16 budget resolutions and vote against all anti-environment legislation that may be offered as part of the budget debate. We will strongly consider including votes on these bills in the 2015 *Scorecard*. If you need more information, please call Sara Chieffo or Alex Taurel in my office at (202) 785-8683.

Sincerely,

Gene Karpinski
President