September 7, 2011

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Minority Leader McConnell:

We, the undersigned, represent a broad-based coalition of energy efficiency and environmental organizations, small and large businesses, public interest and faith-based groups, who are writing today to strongly urge you to bring bi-partisan energy efficiency legislation as a “standalone” package to the Senate floor for consideration as soon as Congress returns from its August recess.

Energy efficiency measures are by far the smartest, cheapest, and easiest way to address our energy challenges. Strong energy efficiency policies across the U.S. will create hundreds of thousands of good jobs for Americans and cut utility bills for consumers across the country. Some of our nation’s most successful companies save money by reducing their energy use, and given the right energy efficiency policies, they can save more. These businesses support strong federal energy efficiency policies that enable leveraging of private capital, provide long-term market certainty, spur economic growth and create jobs.

During these challenging economic times, becoming more efficient across all sectors of the economy is more important than ever. Americans need every dollar and cannot continue to waste money on their utility bills. Unfortunately, we have not been able to agree on a long-term energy policy. We ask Congress to carefully consider its own expenditures and pass common sense measures to alleviate the economic hardship of the average American. We urge you to consider including the following measures in the energy efficiency package that would provide savings to consumers and businesses:

- **S. 398, the Implementation of National Consensus Appliance Agreements (INCAA)**, which contains consensus energy and water saving standards, was passed earlier this year by the Senate Energy Committee on a strong bi-partisan basis by a vote of 18-4.
- **S. 1000, the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act of 2011**, which is sponsored by Senators Shaheen and Portman, would encourage efficiency in commercial buildings, the industrial sector and government facilities. This bill, too, has been reported favorably by the Senate Energy Committee on a bi-partisan basis by a vote of 18-3.

The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) estimates that these provisions would provide over $200 billion in net energy savings to American households and businesses over the next two decades. Additionally, analysis by both ACEEE and the Political Economy Research Institute indicate that the same provisions would create more than 85,000
jobs by 2020, and approximately 155,000 jobs by 2030. Such energy efficiency initiatives would help make this nation more competitive globally by facilitating the manufacture and deployment of energy efficient technologies here at home rather than overseas.

Energy efficiency is a bi-partisan issue and one that pays back to our economy. Again, we urge you to bring bi-partisan energy efficiency legislation as a “standalone” package to the Senate floor for a vote soon after the August recess, so that Americans can begin reaping the benefits these policies would yield.

Sincerely,

Alliance to Save Energy
American Chemistry Council
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
American Institute of Architects
American Lighting Association
Appliance Standards Awareness Project
Association of Pool and Spa Professionals
Association of State Energy Research and Technology Transfer Institutions
Autodesk
Best Buy
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
Capital E
Center for Environmental Innovation in Roofing
Citizens for Pennsylvania’s Future (PennFuture)
Conservation Law Foundation
Conservation Services Group
Consumer Federation of America
Consumers Union
Danfoss
Direct Energy
Earth Day Network
Eastern Mountain Sports
Energy Future Coalition
Energy Platforms, LLC
Environment America
Environment and Energy Study Institute
Environment Northeast
Environmental Defense Fund
Environmental Law and Policy Center
Federal Performance Contracting Coalition
Fresh Energy
Geothermal Exchange Organization
Green Building Initiative
Guardian Industries Corp
Habitat for Humanity
Ingersoll Rand
Interfaith Power & Light
Johnson Controls
Knauf Insulation
Large Public Power Council
LeGrand
Levi Strauss & Co.
Masco
Massachusetts Climate Action Network
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
National Association for State Community Service Programs
National Association of Energy Service Companies
National Association of State Energy Officials
National Community Action Foundation
National Electrical Manufacturers Association
National Roofing Contracting Association
Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships
NW Energy Coalition
Oregon Environmental Council
Phillips Electronics
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association
Rebuilding Together
Rinnai
Siemens
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
Stonyfield Farm
The Center for the Celebration of Creation
The Stella Group, Ltd.
The Wilderness Society
US Green Buildings Council
Utah Clean Energy
Vinyl Siding Institute, Inc.
Watkins Manufacturing
Whirlpool Corporation