



September 24, 2020

United States House  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Support H.R. 4447 and its pro-environment 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.

As the House debates H.R. 4447, the Clean Economy Jobs and Innovation Act, LCV urges you to support the pro-environment amendments and reject weakening or anti-environment amendments, as listed below, and vote YES on final passage. This bill includes many great provisions to develop and deploy renewable and distributed energy resources; improve the efficiency of our homes, schools, and businesses; electrify our transportation sector; modernize the grid and enhance its resiliency; prioritize the needs of environmental justice communities; reduce climate pollution from industrial and traditional sources, and from ambient air. Though we do not support increased funding for projects that could extend the life of fossil fuel-burning power plants or aging nuclear power infrastructure or prop up undemonstrated new nuclear projects, many of the amendments would improve those areas and build upon the significant positive environmental aspects of the bill. We urge support for amendments listed below offered singly or en bloc that will make the bill even stronger by protecting our communities and environment while investing in clean energy research, development, and deployment. And we urge you to reject anti-environment amendments listed below offered singly or en bloc.

**Pro-environment Amendments Include:**

**Haaland (NM), Tlaib (MI), Ocasio-Cortez (NY) #169**

This amendment would increase the authorization amounts for renewable energy research and development by 50 percent such that the total renewable energy innovation funding in the package would exceed that of fossil fuel programs authorized in the bill.

**En Bloc # 1**

**94. DeGette (CO) #122**



**VOTE YES**

This amendment would require that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) update its rules regarding methane emissions from oil and gas wells leased on public lands and that operators capture 85 percent of leaked methane – an air pollutant and climate super-pollutant – within 3 years.

**24. Escobar (TX) #77**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would require that the DOE give special consideration to institutions of higher education that serve communities of color, so-called minority serving institutions, in choosing entities for grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements related to solar energy research and development.

**52. Lujan (NM), Castor (FL) #110**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would make community solar projects more accessible for all consumers and encourage states to set in place policies to advance community solar.

**72. Quigley (IL) #13**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would direct the General Services Administration, as feasible, to employ technologies and strategies to reduce bird collisions at public buildings.

**En bloc #2**

**2. Barragán (CA), Beyer (VA), Lee, Barbara (CA), et al. #57**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would establish a Climate Smart Ports program at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with a \$1B/year authorization. The program would provide grants for deploying zero emissions technologies and clean energy microgrids at ports and with port users.

**3. Barragán (CA) #59**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would increase by \$40M per year the authorization for EPA's Environmental Justice Small Grants and Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreements Programs, and Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) I and II grants.

**93. Blumenauer (OR) #152**



**VOTE YES**

This amendment would require DOE to compile and report upon funding provided to the Light Water [nuclear] Reactor Program, and establish an advisory committee to report on this annually.

**7. Blunt Rochester (DE) #44**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would provide \$18B to upgrade energy efficiency and install clean energy systems in critical public buildings like schools and hospitals.

**16. Clarke, Yvette (NY) #2**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would establish an EPA pilot program to provide grants, rebates and low-cost revolving loans to projects that replace an existing diesel-powered refrigeration unit in a heavy-duty vehicle with an electric unit or install electric shore power infrastructure to decrease idling of refrigerated trucks.

**25. Finkenauer (IA) #131**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would require certain labor standards, including prevailing wages, for projects getting funding from provisions in the bill.

**35. Hayes (CT), Cárdenas (CA) #71**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would set aside \$100M of the \$130M/year reauthorization of EPA's Clean School Bus Program for grants to replace existing fossil fuel-powered school buses with zero emission school buses.

**61. Omar (MN) #172**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would require that the U.S. Treasury identify and quantify the economic cost of any fossil fuel subsidies not eliminated by this bill or its amendments.

**74. Rouda (CA) #11**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would allow states to set appliance energy efficiency standards if the Department of Energy (DOE) missed statutory deadlines to review and issue new standards.

**88. Waters (CA) #103**

**VOTE YES**



This amendment would require that the DOE analyze state grants on smart manufacturing to see if they benefit diverse communities.

**En bloc #4**

**34. Harder (CA) #135**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would require institutions of higher education in the Centers of Excellence program to consider the public health effects of wildfire smoke on outdoor workers and improves required outreach and collaboration with states, tribes, and local government and other institutions.

**46. Levin, Mike (CA), Bonamici (OR), Neguse (CO) #37**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would create a program to improve wildfire smoke modeling and predictions of smoke severity and direct the EPA to better research the negative health effects from wildfire smoke.

**68. Pingree (ME), Spanberger (VA) #29**

**VOTE YES**

This amendment would add agricultural, grazing, and forestry practices to DOE's priorities in its carbon removal research and development, in order to advance natural systems' ability to capture and store carbon.

**Anti-Environment Amendments Include:**

**En Bloc #3**

**91. Wilson, Joe (SC) #40**

**VOTE NO**

This amendment would require DOE to evaluate potential sites in the DOE footprint for advanced nuclear research and demonstration programs.

We urge you to SUPPORT H.R. 4447 and the pro-environment amendments listed above, and oppose anti-environment amendments. We will strongly consider including votes on this legislation in the 2020 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 style with a prominent initial "G".

Gene Karpinski

President