



North Carolina General Assembly
House of Representatives
State Legislative Building
Raleigh, 27601-1096

Pricey Harrison

57th District, Guilford County District

Office: 2119 Legislative Building
16 W. Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096
Phone: (919) 733-5771
Fax: (919) 754-3259
Email: priceyh@ncleg.net
Home: P. O. Box 9339
Greensboro, NC 27429

May 7, 2009

COMMITTEES:

Appropriations
Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural & Economic
Resources, Vice Chair
Election Law & Campaign Finance Reform
Energy & Energy Efficiency, Chair
Environment & Natural Resources, Vice Chair
Judiciary I
Public Utilities

Environmental Review Commission
Energy Policy Council
Legislative Commission on Global Climate Change,
Co-Chair

The Honorable Representative G.K. Butterfield
413 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Butterfield,

We are writing to inform you of our support for the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (ACES).

Our reliance on fossil fuels is draining our economy, threatening our security, and putting our planet in peril. We have the chance to transform our economy with clean energy, and the American Clean Energy and Security Act will do just that. The three most important components of the bill are the renewable electricity standard; the energy efficiency resource standard, and science-based cuts in global warming pollution.

The renewable electricity standard would require that, by 2025, 25% of all of our electricity come from clean, renewable, and homegrown sources. This standard alone would create an estimated 297,000 new jobs nationwide and save consumers in North Carolina \$970 million in electricity and natural gas bills by 2025.ⁱ

Every state in the country has the potential to benefit from increased renewable energy. In 2007, our legislature passed the Southeast's first Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Standard, calling for at least 7.5% of the state's energy come from renewable sources. A February 2009 report by the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy shows that we can do much more. The report found that every Southeastern state, including North Carolina, has the potential to meet a goal of 20% by 2020, without considering tremendous untapped resources such as offshore wind. According to the report offshore wind can more than make up the additional 5% by creating 140,097 MW or 54% of North Carolina's total potential renewable energy resource capacity.ⁱⁱ



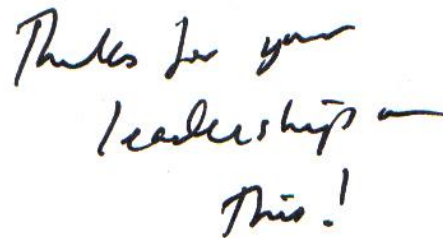
The energy efficiency resource standard, which would require utilities to use 15% less energy by 2020, will encourage innovation, lower utility bills for consumers and businesses, create jobs, and reduce pollution. In North Carolina, the standard would create 6,400 jobs and save consumers an average of \$640 per household annually by 2020.ⁱⁱⁱ

Science-based reduction targets are critical. Scientists are in agreement that the United States and the rest of the world must dramatically and quickly shift to clean energy and reduce pollution to avoid the worst effects of global warming. ACES's science-based standards will reduce U.S. global warming pollution by 30% by 2020 by cutting pollution domestically and preventing tropical deforestation through international agreements.

ACES currently leaves the issue of requiring polluters to pay unresolved. Auctioning 100% of the pollution credits rather than giving them to polluters for free is fair and will create a large source of revenue to assist low and moderate income Americans with energy costs and to invest in clean energy.

As Vice-Chair of the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment and a member of the full Energy and Commerce Committee, we ask that you support a strong American Clean Energy and Security Act. This bill should require the United States generate 25% of its electricity from clean sources by 2025, that utilities use 15% less energy by 2020, retain its science-based targets, and require 100% auction of pollution credits, while limiting the number of offsets.

Sincerely,



Rep. Pricey Harrison, District 57
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Committee on Global Climate Change
Vice-Chair, Energy and Energy Efficiency Committee
Vice-Chair, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Sen. Don Davis, District 5

Rep. Lucy Allen, District 49
Member, Joint Legislative Commission on Global Climate Change
Chair, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Rep. Joe Tolson, District 23

Rep. Jean Farmer-Butterfield, District 24

Rep. Annie Mobley, District 5

Rep. Alice Graham Underhill, District 3
Member, Joint Legislative Commission on Global Climate Change
Vice-Chair, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Rep. Kelly Alexander, District 107
Member, Energy and Energy Efficiency Committee
Member, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Rep. Susan Fisher
Member, Energy and Energy Efficiency Committee

Rep. Verla Insko, District 56
Member, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Rep. Tricia Cotham, District 100

Rep. Nick Mackey, District 99

Rep. Ty Harrell, District 41

Rep. Jane Whilden, District 116
Member, Energy and Energy Efficiency Committee

Rep. Larry Hall, District 29

Rep. Paul Luebke, District 30
Member, Energy and Energy Efficiency Committee
Member, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Rep. Martha Alexander, District 106

Rep. Earl Jones, District 60

Rep. Jennifer Weiss, District 35

Rep. Grier Martin, District 34
Member, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Rep. Melanie Wade Goodwin, District 66

Rep. Phil Haire, District 119
Member, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Rep. Cullie Tarleton, District 93
Member, Energy and Energy Efficiency Committee
Vice-Chair, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Rep. Ray Rapp, District 118

Sen. John Snow, District 50
Member, Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Senator Charles Albertson, District 10
Member, Joint Legislative Commission on Global Climate Change
Member, Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources
Member, Select Committee on Energy, Science and Technology

Senator Linda Garrou, District 32

Senator Steve Goss, District 45

Senator Joe Sam Queen, District 47
Member, Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee
Co-Chairman, Select Committee on Energy, Science and Technology

ⁱ Cumulative Electricity and Natural Gas Savings, Union of Concerned Scientists, HYPERLINK
"http://www.ucsusa.org/assets/documents/clean_energy/Clean-Power-Green-Jobs-25-RES.pdf"
http://www.ucsusa.org/assets/documents/clean_energy/Clean-Power-Green-Jobs-25-RES.pdf.

ⁱⁱ "Yes We Can: Southern Solutions for a National Renewable Energy Standard, pg 4, Southern Alliance
for Clean Energy, February 12, 2009.

ⁱⁱⁱ American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy and Energy Future Coalition, April 2009