



October 27, 2009

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Chairman
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6115

Dear Chairman Waxman:

We were delighted to see you took our previous letter of October 16, 2009 under advisement and requested the Congressional Budget Office answer the list of questions you previously requested from Heritage and six other organizations and government agencies. We were also encouraged to see you request the same information from Dr. David Roland-Holst for the study he commissioned.

We thank you for continuing to provide transparency in this way. However, we again urge you to request the same information from the Political Economy Research Institute (PERI) and the Brookings Institution. If you do not plan to request this information from them then we would like to formally request a written justification detailing why they have been excluded from this process.

The Brookings study claims GDP in the United States would be lower by 2.5 percent in 2050, and unemployment would be 0.5 percent higher (1.7 million fewer jobs) in the first decade below the baseline or without cap and trade. The PERI study claims the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and the American Clean Energy and Security Act (ACES) will produce an “economic transformation.” In the context of the ARRA and ACES, the authors analyze a hypothetical scenario in which \$150 billion per year is invested in clean energy industries versus spending the same amount in carbon-based fuel industries and conclude that it would produce a net gain of 1.7 million jobs.

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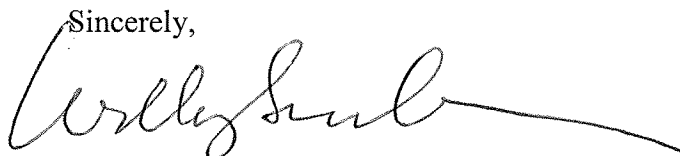
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Both of these studies added to the public debate on this important issue and they deserve to have additional light shed on how they arrived at their conclusions. If you or your staff have any questions or would like to follow up with someone on our staff please contact Dan Ziegler, our U.S. House Relations Deputy, at dan.ziegler@heritage.org or 202-608-6063.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Beach", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William Beach
Director, Center for Data Analysis