November 19, 2010

The Honorable Joseph Lieberman
Hart Office Building
Suite 706
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lieberman,

On behalf of the Blue Climate Coalition, we wish to thank you for your efforts in advancing marine conservation as part of the solution to climate change.

We are delighted that your discussion draft, the American Power Act, recognizes that marine conservation has a role to play in mitigating climate change.

The inclusion of “wetlands” and "vegetated marine coastal habitats" under allowable offset projects will help ensure that the conservation and restoration of certain coastal and marine ecosystems, that store atmospheric carbon, is included in discussions of climate change policy. Such important “blue carbon” ecosystems include mangrove forests, saltwater marshlands and seagrass meadows, which are extremely effective at storing carbon – mangroves and coastal wetlands store 50 times more carbon than tropical forests by area.

Given the recent election results, we understand that progress on comprehensive climate change legislation will not be easy. We offer you our support in advancing science-based policy options for addressing this critically important issue and in defending the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to reduce greenhouse gas pollution.

Thank you again for your interest in climate change and healthy oceans.

Sincerely yours,

Signed by the following seventy-three marine stakeholders and conservation groups, together from twenty-one U.S. states and territories and seventeen countries (Blue Climate Coalition):

*Domestic - Fifty-three signatories from twenty-one states and territories:*

**Blue Climate Solutions**
Steven J. Lutz, Executive Director, Founder, Blue Climate Coalition, Miami, FL

**The Ocean Foundation**
Mark J. Spalding, Ph.D., President, Washington, DC

**Mangrove Action Project**
Alfredo Quarto, Executive Director, Port Angeles, WA
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Club</td>
<td>Bruce Hamilton, Deputy Executive Director, San Francisco, CA</td>
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<td>Seagrass Recovery</td>
<td>Jeff Beggins, President &amp; CEO, Indian Rocks Beach, FL</td>
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<td>Restore America's Estuaries</td>
<td>Jeff Benoit, President, Arlington, VA</td>
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<td>350.org</td>
<td>Bill McKibben, Co-founder &amp; Global Organizer, Ripton, VT</td>
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<td>Greenpeace USA</td>
<td>Phil Kline, Senior Oceans Campaigner, Washington, DC</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Blue Carbon Project</td>
<td>John Bruno, Ph.D., Director, Assistant Professor, Department of Marine Sciences, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC</td>
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<td>Surfrider Foundation</td>
<td>Chad Nelsen, Environmental Director, San Clemente, CA</td>
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<td>American Littoral Society</td>
<td>Tim Dillingham, Executive Director, Highlands, NJ</td>
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<td>Ocean Conservation Research</td>
<td>Michael Stocker, Executive Director, Forest Knolls, CA</td>
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<td>American Fisheries Society (AFS)</td>
<td>Gus Rassam, Ph.D., Executive Director, Bethesda, MD</td>
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<td>Alliance for Earth Observations</td>
<td>Nancy S.A. Colleton, Executive Director &amp; Co-Founder, Arlington, VA</td>
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<td>EarthEcho International</td>
<td>Philippe Cousteau, Jr., Co-founder &amp; CEO, Washington, DC</td>
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<td>NAUI Worldwide</td>
<td>Jed Livingstone, Vice President, Tampa, FL</td>
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<td>Forest Trends</td>
<td>Mr. Michael Jenkins, President &amp; CEO, Washington, DC</td>
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<td>Blue Ocean Institute</td>
<td>Carl Safina, Ph.D., President, East Norwich, NY</td>
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<td>Oceanic Defense - Florida</td>
<td>Samantha Whitcraft, Director, Conservation Biology &amp; Research, Miami, FL, Activation Through Education</td>
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<td>Fauna &amp; Flora International</td>
<td>Katie Frohardt, Executive Director, Washington, DC</td>
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<td>Trees, Water &amp; People</td>
<td>Stuart Conway, International Director, Fort Collins, CO</td>
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Center for Rural Empowerment and the Environment
Mike Skuja, Executive Director & Founder, Washington, DC

Urban Paradise Guild
Sam Van Leer, Executive Director, Miami, FL

CORALations
Mary Ann Lucking, Director, Culebra, PR

Environment Florida
Sarah Bucci, Federal Field Associate, Miami Beach, FL

Repower America Florida
Lance Orchid, Florida State Director, St Petersburg, FL

The Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL)
Rick MacPherson, Interim Executive Director and Conservation Programs Director, San Francisco, CA

Earth2Ocean Inc.
Ellen Prager, Ph.D., President, Miami, FL

Endangered Habitats League
Dan Silver, Executive Director, Los Angeles, CA

ECOMB: Environmental Coalition of Miami & the Beaches
Luiz Rodrigues, Executive Director, Miami Beach, FL

Florida Conservation Alliance
Ilysia Shattuck, Director, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Friends of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument
Mr. Ignacio V. Cabrera, Chairman, Saipan, CNMI

Global Coral Reef Alliance
Thomas J. Goreau, Ph.D., President, Cambridge, MA

Guanaja Mangrove Restoration
Scott Duncan, Director, South Portland, ME

Island Resources Foundation
Bruce G. Potter, President, Washington, DC

KAHEA: The Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance
Miwa Tamanaha, Executive Director, Honolulu, HI

The Ocean Project
Bill Mott, Director, Providence, RI

Malama Kai Foundation
Terry O'Halloran, Executive Director, Kamuela, HI
Ocean Defenders Alliance  Scott Sheckman, Executive Director, Huntington Beach, CA
Ocean Revolution  Wallace J. Nichols, Ph.D., Founder & Co-Director, Davenport, CA
Pro Peninsula - Ocean Connectors Program  Frances Kinney, Director, San Diego, CA
SandyHook SeaLife Foundation  Mary M. Hamilton, Executive Director, Highlands, NJ
Save Our Seas  Capt. Paul Clark, President, Hanalei, HI
ScienceFish.com  Refik Orhun, Ph.D., Founder, Miami, FL
Sea Turtle Conservancy  David Godfrey, Executive Director, Gainesville, FL
South Carolina Coastal Conservation League  Dana Beach, Executive Director, Charleston, SC
Coastal Research and Education Society of Long Island  Arthur H. Kopelman, Ph. D., President, Long Island, NY
Beautify CNMI!  Cinta M. Kaipat, Founder, Saipan, CNMI
The Interfaith Council for the Protection of Animals and Nature (ICPAN)  Lewis Regenstein, President, Atlanta, GA
Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation  CAPT Philip G. Renaud, USN (ret), Executive Director, Landover, MD
The Snorkel Bob Foundation  Robert Wintner, Executive Director, Kihei, HI
WIDECAST: Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network  Karen Eckert, Ph.D., Executive Director, Beaufort, NC

International - Twenty signatories from sixteen countries:

Andros Conservancy and Trust (ANCAT)  Peter Douglas, Executive Director, Fresh Creek, Andros, Bahamas
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<tr>
<td>Blue Ventures</td>
<td>Alasdair Harris, Ph.D., Research Director, London, United Kingdom</td>
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<td>Cartagena's Youth Declaration on Climate Change Group</td>
<td>Viviana Mourra, Representative, Cartagena, Republic of Colombia</td>
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<td>Centro Ecologico Akumal</td>
<td>Paul Sanchez-Navarro, Director, Quintana Roo, México</td>
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<td>CIANGO: Cook Islands Association of Non-Government Organizations</td>
<td>Mrs. Tuaine Marsters, President, Rarotonga, Cook Islands</td>
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Sierra Club British Colombia

George Heyman, Executive Director, Victoria, BC, Canada

SUNGO: Samoa Umbrella for Non Governmental Organisations
High Chief Vaasiliifili Moelagi Jackson, SUNGO National President, Apia, Independent State of Samoa

TierraMar Consulting Pty Limited
Anissa Lawrence, Director, Sutherland, NSW, Australia

TNYC: Tonga National Youth Congress
Miss Siala Jagroop, Nuku‘alofa, Kingdom of Tonga

WetlandCare Australia Ltd
Anissa Lawrence, Director, Ballina, NSW, Australia

Contact: Steven J. Lutz, Blue Climate Solutions, Email: steven.lutz@blueclimatesolutions.org