



August 18, 2010

The Honorable Steve Beshear
Governor of Kentucky
700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 100
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Dear Governor Beshear:

On behalf of the Kentucky Sustainable Energy Alliance, a diverse coalition of organizations working to promote clean, sustainable and affordable energy solutions throughout Kentucky, we write to you today to urge your leadership in advancing the dialogue about Kentucky's response to the challenges and opportunities posed by climate change. The convening of the Kentucky Climate Action Plan Council was a first step in fostering dialogue and considering Kentucky's policy options to achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in ways that benefit all Kentuckians. The selection of the Center for Climate Strategies to facilitate and provide data support for this effort reflects the seriousness with which your administration approaches this effort.

The recent recommendation by the Government Contract Review Committee to disapprove the contract concerns us tremendously. While we have misgivings about the lack of adequate representation from public interest, environmental and low-income organizations on the Council and its Working Groups, we feel strongly that this dialogue must be continued and that it must be supported by the kind of serious data analysis that the Center for Climate Strategies can provide. Continuing the contract will make possible comprehensive cost-analysis of 50 policy options. It is our opinion that no single group in Kentucky possesses the credibility and knowledge to conduct such an analysis and that the Center for Climate Strategies is well-suited, based on their experience working with 40 other states, to do so.

Climate change presents tremendous threats to Kentucky's economy, health and landscape, but it also presents significant opportunities to create new jobs and develop cleaner forms of energy. We must not close our eyes to what is perhaps the most serious issue of our time. We must rise to the occasion and engage in the kind of honest dialogue this issue demands. That means searching out the facts, not burying them.

We urge you to reject the Committee's disapproval, and allow the Center for Climate Strategies to continue to facilitate this important conversation.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

With best wishes,

The Kentucky Sustainable Energy Alliance

Cc: Honorable Len Peters, Energy and Environment Secretary
Honorable Jonathan Miller, Finance and Administration Secretary



About the Kentucky Sustainable Energy Alliance

KySEA formed in August 2009 with the goal of promoting clean, sustainable and affordable energy solutions for Kentucky. The Alliance currently has 24 members including renewable energy businesses, service organizations, faith and social justice groups, agricultural, environmental and health-based organizations. KySEA seeks to build public support for energy policies that:

- § Make improving energy efficiency Kentucky's top energy priority.
- § Promote the development of clean, renewable energy and increase the share of our overall energy mix that comes from these sources.
- § Create new jobs and opportunities for Kentuckians, including a just transition for coal communities and workers.
- § Enable all Kentucky residents and businesses to take advantage of energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions.

Additional information about the Kentucky Sustainable Energy Alliance and the potential for energy efficiency and renewable energy in Kentucky can be found at: www.kyseal.org.

Members of the Kentucky Sustainable Energy Alliance Include:

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| Appalachia-Science in the Public Interest | Kentucky Conservation Committee |
| Bluegrass Greenworks, Inc. | Kentucky Environmental Foundation |
| Community Farm Alliance | Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light |
| Cumberland Chapter, Sierra Club | Kentucky Solar Energy Society |
| Earth Works, LLC | Kentucky Solar Partnership |
| Ecos Materials and Services, LLC | Kentucky Student Environmental Coalition |
| effEnergy, LLC | Louisville Climate Action Network |
| Energy Systems Group | Metropolitan Housing Coalition |
| Frankfort Climate Action Network | Mountain Association for Community Economic Development |
| Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky | RegenEn Solar |
| Impact Energy, LLC | Women In Transition |
| Kentuckians For The Commonwealth | |