



NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

May 10, 2010

The Honorable Frank Lautenberg  
United States Senate  
324 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-3005

Dear Senator Lautenberg,

On behalf of the 1.3 million members and online activists of the Natural Resources Defense Council, I write to support legislation embodied in the bill, The Beyond Petroleum Act to move our nation away from its dependence on oil and provide funding for alternatives.

Our country's dependence on fossil fuels threatens the economy, national security, coastal economies, and the planet's long term environmental health. It is critical that we move towards the best alternatives considering their total direct and indirect costs. Investing in these cleaner, safer alternatives can, in turn, create clean energy jobs, reduce vulnerability to fuel price hikes, and lessen air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

However, the real solution to our oil addiction is comprehensive energy and climate legislation that puts a price on carbon and sends clear market signals to move our country away from our addiction to carbon-based energy.

Thank you for your critical efforts in improving the economy, the environment and our national security. We stand ready to assist you in these efforts.

Sincerely,

/s

Franz Matzner

Climate Legislative Director



May 10, 2010

The Honorable Frank Lautenberg  
324 Senate Hart Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lautenberg,

On behalf of Friends of the Earth's thousands of members and supporters, I write to thank you for introducing the Beyond Petroleum Act. Current law, which simply requires that oil companies clean up their spills, does not protect our coasts and will not move us beyond offshore drilling.

Offshore drilling is inherently dirty and our coasts will remain endangered as long as we continue to allow drilling. We should be investing in a clean energy future, as this bill aims to do. Your leadership has elevated this important issue and I hope it starts a serious debate on the need to move beyond oil. As you know, another aspect of this debate will involve defining clean energy and we look forward to working with you to ensure that new funds only go to truly sustainable energy sources.

We support the Beyond Petroleum Act and thank you for your continued leadership on the issue. As this discussion moves forward, please contact our Dirty Fuels Campaigner, Alex Moore, at 202-222-0733 and at [amoore@foe.org](mailto:amoore@foe.org).

Sincerely,

Erich Pica  
President  
Friends of the Earth