




**National Rural Electric
Cooperative Association**

A Touchstone Energy* Cooperative 

Glenn English
Chief Executive Officer

March 16, 2011

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate
S-230 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McConnell:

On behalf of America's electric cooperatives serving 42 million consumers in 47 states, I am writing in support of S. AMDT. 183 (the Energy Tax Prevention Act of 2011) to the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2011 (S. 493).

NRECA has long argued that the Clean Air Act was never intended to regulate carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. It was simply never designed to address a substance as ubiquitous as CO₂. Electric cooperatives believe efforts to address carbon emissions should not be addressed by federal agencies using existing statutes or through the Courts (through so-called "nuisance suits").

As such, NRECA has consistently supported efforts to pre-empt the use of the Clean Air Act to regulate CO₂ emissions (particularly from stationary sources) and will continue to do so. I appreciate the recognition by you and other Senators who are supporting S. AMDT. 183 that keeping electric bills affordable is essential as we restore our nation's diminished economic capacity.

The Energy Tax Prevention Act of 2011 will eliminate an inappropriate tool for regulating greenhouse gases. Enacting this legislation will take a bipartisan effort in Congress, and NRECA is urging members of both parties, in the House and the Senate, to work together to craft a plan that can garner the votes to pass and not simply treat this issue as a political football – it is too important.

We applaud your strong leadership on this issue and we support your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Glenn English".

Glenn English