March 9, 2020

To Speaker Pelosi,

On behalf of our organizations and their millions of members and supporters, we are writing to express our alarm at climate legislation recently released by the House Energy and Commerce Committee. When you resumed the Speakership, you promised ambitious leadership on climate. The CLEAN Future Act puts that promise in jeopardy.

Despite the pleas of grassroots organizations across the United States, despite the dire warnings of the world’s climate scientists, and despite the unraveling of the planet’s life support systems happening in real time, Chairman Pallone’s CLEAN Future Act represents a staggering failure of ambition and leadership. Fracked gas is not clean energy, despite the absurd definition in his bill, and market mechanisms like carbon credits will concentrate pollution in our most vulnerable communities.

In 2019, the world’s climate scientists urgently warned that global emissions must be cut by at least 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030 if our planet has any real and meaningful chance to stay within 1.5°C of global warming.¹ The CLEAN Future Act completely ignores that warning, and instead pretends that an amorphously defined “net zero” goal of 2050 is adequate. It is not.

There is no time left for half-measures. The leadership of your committee chairs is ultimately a reflection on your leadership as Speaker. For the sake of the American people, the planet and future generations, we call upon you to set a much higher standard now.

CC: Chairwoman Cathy Castor, Chairman Frank Pallone, Jr.

Sincerely,

Beyond Extreme Energy
Central Jersey Climate Coalition
Center for Biological Diversity
Climate Hawks Vote
Democratic Socialists of America - Central NJ
Friends of the Earth
Food and Water Action
NJ Industrial Union Council
Oil Change U.S.
Our Revolution Monmouth County

Progressive Democrats of America
Progressive Democrats of America - NJ
RU Progressive
Sunrise Movement Rutgers
Sunrise Movement Jersey Shore
350.org
350NJ