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# **UJAE** *Unions for Jobs And the Environment*

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## **Member Unions**

Brotherhood of Locomotive  
Engineers

International Brotherhood  
of Boilermakers,  
Iron Ship Builders,  
Blacksmiths, Forgers  
and Helpers

International Brotherhood  
of Electrical Workers

International Brotherhood  
of Teamsters

Marine Engineers Beneficial  
Association

Sheet Metal Workers  
International Association

Transportation • Communications  
International Union

United Food and Commercial  
Workers International Union

United Mine Workers  
of America

United Transportation Union

Utility Workers Union  
of America

## **President**

Bill Cunningham

## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Unions for Jobs and the Environment (UJAE) welcomes**

the District Court decision rejecting the argument

that major utilities be required to reduce

emissions of carbon dioxide

UJAE filed a brief, a year ago, opposing the view of the Attorneys General of several states in their federal court case against a number of electric utilities alleging that carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is a nuisance and utilities should therefore be required to reduce their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

The decision by Loretta A. Preska, United States District Judge for the Southern District Court of New York, to dismiss the complaints of the Attorneys General is welcomed by UJAE and its member unions.

Currently, the US is a party to the United Nations Climate Change Convention, a treaty for negotiating further climate change measures. Acceptance of the Attorneys General argument would allow the courts to interfere in this foreign policy process. In its brief, *UJAE argued that “the power to execute the nation’s foreign affairs is expressly vested in the executive and legislative branches.”* UJAE also pointed out that *“the U.S. would lose its ability to insist on commitments by other nations to control emissions if Plaintiffs were to succeed in using common law to force unilateral reductions on a handful of emitters in the United States.”*

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