



**INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD
OF ELECTRICAL
WORKERS**

900 Seventh Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 833-7000

EDWIN D. HILL
International President

JON F. WALTERS
International Secretary-Treasurer

May 17, 2007

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
Chairman
United States Senate
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6150

Dear Chairman Bingaman:

On behalf of the 720,000 members of The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), I appreciate your strong leadership in crafting legislation that addresses global climate change with a reasonable and balanced approach. Whereas there are some remaining concerns I would like to address with you and your staff, I strongly support the draft Bingaman-Specter climate legislation.

Your draft bill is unique amongst all legislative proposals. It offers an effective approach that assures abundant, affordable energy supplies and does not undermine economic growth or diminish good paying jobs for our workers.

I am especially heartened by your interest in incorporating the allowance trading provision proposed by the IBEW and American Electric Power (AEP). This is a realistic plan that forthrightly deals with climate-changing emissions arising from fast-developing nations like India and China, while complying with U.S. international trade obligations. This provision is absolutely essential to America's working men and women, and IBEW support for the bill is contingent upon inclusion of this language.

Additionally, for purposes of coal-fired electric generating units, we recommend emulating the Title IV acid rain program and other existing federal cap-and-trade programs so that the point of regulation is the same as the point of allowance allocation. Electric utilities already have the expertise and structures to monitor and report emissions and to expedite compliance.

Once again, I support your efforts to address global climate change in a thoughtful and sensible manner. I look forward to working with you and your staff to address our outstanding issues and to build support with others to move your bill forward.

Sincerely,

Edwin D. Hill
International President

EDH:pr
Copy to The Honorable Harry Reid, Senate Majority Leader
The Honorable Arlen Specter