

November 16, 2020

Dear Congressional Democrats:

As the 2020 election results are finalized, it is clear that Democrats will remain in leadership of the US House of Representatives. We call on all members of the Democratic Caucus of the House of Representatives to unambiguously commit to serving in the interest of the public, rather than corporations. To clearly demonstrate this commitment, we demand that:

- Representatives be disqualified from chairing a committee with any jurisdiction (whether full or partial) over climate and energy, food and agriculture, and the financial and insurance sectors if they have accepted donations over \$200 from executives, lobbyists, and PACs representing, respectively, fossil fuel, food and agribusiness, and financial and insurance sector corporations.
- Representatives be disqualified from serving in any leadership position within the Democratic Caucus if they have accepted donations over \$200 from executives, lobbyists, and PACs representing fossil fuel, food and agribusiness, and financial and insurance sector corporations.

We must build on the principles outlined in the [No Fossil Fuel Money Pledge](#), already signed by 54 members of Congress, which requires elected officials “not to take contributions over \$200 from oil, gas, and coal industry executives, lobbyists, and PACs and instead prioritize the health of our families, climate, and democracy over fossil fuel industry profits.” Elected officials should similarly reject donations from food and agribusiness as well as financial and insurance sector corporations.

Large food and agribusiness corporations, many of them virtual monopolies, have dominated food and agriculture policy to the detriment of family farmers, food chain workers, public health, and the environment. And without billions of dollars in support from Wall Street banks and insurance companies, fossil fuel companies and large agribusinesses would be unable to continue or expand activities that worsen climate change, harm communities, and result in human rights abuses.

The people of the United States are tired of their elected representatives sacrificing the health and well-being of people and the planet at the altar of corporate greed. The 2020 Democratic Party Platform rightfully asserts, “We will hold polluters and corporate executives accountable for intentionally hiding or distorting material information and for affecting the health and safety of workers and communities.” The House Democratic Caucus cannot credibly put these words into action if those in leadership and oversight positions take contributions from the polluters and profiteers they are supposed to hold to account.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Action Center on Race & the Economy  
Amazon Watch  
Animal Legal Defense Fund  
Anthropocene Alliance  
Buffalo River Watershed Alliance  
Call to Action CO  
Catholic Network US  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Center for International Environmental Law  
Central Maryland Beekeepers Association  
Climate Crisis Policy  
Climate Finance Action  
Colorado Coalition for a Livable Climate  
Community for Sustainable Energy  
COMMUNITYx, Inc.  
Concord Climate Action Network  
Cream City Conservation  
Denver DSA EcoSocialism Committee  
Earth Action, Inc.  
Earth Guardians  
EcoEquity  
Endangered Species Coalition  
Energy and Environmental Initiative of the  
Colorado Democratic Party  
Extinction Rebellion SF Bay  
Faithful America  
Farmworker Association of Florida  
FCSG  
Food & Water Action  
Friends of the Earth U.S.  
Green Delaware  
GreenLatinos  
Greenpeace USA  
Herbicide-Free Campus  
International Student Environmental  
Coalition  
John Muir Project

Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network  
Long Beach Alliance for Clean Energy  
Maryland Pesticide Education Network  
Material Research L3C  
National Family Farm Coalition  
National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade  
Association  
Northeast Organic Farming Association,  
Mass. Chapter (NOFA/Mass)  
Nuclear Information and Resource Service  
Oil Change U.S.  
Organic Consumers Association  
Pesticide Action Network  
Pivot Point  
Protecting Our Waters  
Rainforest Action Network  
Rapid Shift  
Revolving Door Project  
Science and Environmental Health Network  
Seeding Sovereignty  
Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion  
StopCricketValley.org  
Sunrise Movement Howard County  
Sustainable Energy & Economy Network  
The Climate Mobilization  
The River Project  
TIAADivest!  
Toxic Free NC  
UnKoch My Campus  
Utah Valley Earth Forum  
Young Entertainment Activists  
350 Seattle  
350 Triangle  
350.org  
350NH  
350NYC



## **Annex: Indicative List of Corporations** *[to be added as footnote and linked online]*

**Fossil Fuel Sector:** see <http://nofossilfuelmoney.org/>

### **Food and Agriculture Sector:**

Representatives should not knowingly accept any contributions over \$200 from the PACs, lobbyists, or SEC-named executives of large food and agribusiness corporations. This includes companies with \$10 billion or more in annual revenue whose primary business is the production of agricultural inputs, information technology, machinery, and/or the production, processing, manufacturing, distribution, or sale of food and agricultural commodities. Below is an indicative list of these companies.

#### **Indicative list of companies and subsectors:**

- Agrichemicals and Seeds: Bayer, DowDupont (Corteva), Syngenta, BASF, Nutrien, Koch Industries (Koch Ag & Energy Solutions)
- Farm Machinery and Software: Deere & Company, Caterpillar, CNH Industrial NV., Kubota
- Food and Agricultural Commodity Production, Processing and/or Distribution: JBS, Smithfield, Tyson, Cargill, Bunge, ADM, Land O' Lakes, Dairy Farmers of America, Louis Dreyfus, Sysco, Metro Group AG, Pilgrim's Pride
- Food Manufacturers: General Mills, Kraft-Heinz, Coca-Cola, Mondelez, Danone, General Mills, Kellogg, Mars, Nestle, Keurig Dr Pepper, PepsiCo, Unilever, Campbell's, Anheuser-Busch Inbev, MillerCoors, Carlsberg Group, Heineken, Associated British Foods, Abbott Laboratories, Mead Johnson & Company, George Weston, Saputo Inc.
- Food Retailers: Walmart, Kroger, Costco, Amazon, Ahold-Delhaize, Target, Publix, Aldi, H-E-B, Albertsons, Walgreens-Boots Alliance, CVS Health, Dollar General, Rite Aid, Dollar Tree, Meijer, Hy-Vee, Wakefern, Woolworths, Carrefour, Tesco, Alimentation Couche-Tard, Sainsbury's, Morrisons, Casino Group
- Food Service and Restaurants: Aramark, Compass, Sodexo, McDonald's, Subway, Starbucks
- Lumber Companies and Woody Biomass: Zilkha Biomass Energy, Enviva LP, DRAX, International Paper, Georgia Pacific, Sierra Pacific Industries, Lyme Timber, Weyerhaeuser Co, American Forest & Paper Association, Idaho Forest Group, Lee Timber, National Alliance of Forest Owners, Harwood Federation, Resource Management Service LLC, Baskahegan Co., PotlatchDeltic Corp, Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Assn, Roseburg Forest Products, Enterprise Group, Anthony Timberlands, Resolute FP US, Case Paper, Koch Industries

### **Financial and Insurance Sector:**

Representatives should not knowingly accept any contributions over \$200 from the PACs, lobbyists, or SEC-named executives of large financial and insurance sector corporations. This includes companies with \$10 billion or more in annual revenue whose primary business is finance and insurance. Below is an indicative list of these companies.

**Indicative list of companies and subsectors:**

- Investment banks: Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan Chase, Citigroup, Morgan Stanley, Wells Fargo
- Commercial/retail banks: JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America, Wells Fargo, Citigroup, Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley
- Asset managers: BlackRock, Vanguard, Fidelity, State Street
- Hedge Funds: Renaissance Technologies (Medallion fund), Bridgewater Associates
- Private Equity: The Blackstone Group, Neuberger Berman Group LLC, Apollo Global Management Inc., The Carlyle Group Inc., KKR & Co.
- Advisory and Financial Services: Berkshire Hathaway, Allianz, Axa, JPMorgan Chase, TIAA
- Insurance: Allianz, Axa, Prudential, Berkshire Hathaway, Met Life