

350 Action * 350 Silicon Valley * Center Action Fund * Center for International Environmental Law *ClimateTruth.org *Climate Hawks Vote *Democracy for America *EcoEquity *Food and Water Watch *Friends of the Earth Action *Greenpeace USA *Hill Heat *Indivisible * Indivisible SF *National Nurses United *Oil Change USA *People for Bernie * People Demanding Action * Public Citizen * Rachel Carson Council *Sunrise Movement

23 August 2018

Dear Chairman Perez:

When the DNC followed the lead of more than 1,000 politicians and candidates running for local, state, and national office and declared it would no longer accept fossil fuel corporate PAC contributions, we rightly celebrated the move. As you can surely understand, we were alarmed and dismayed to see the DNC reverse course after only two months. Taking a stand against the campaign contributions of fossil fuel executives, lobbyists, front-groups, and political action committees corrupting our democracy is a basic test of progressive leadership.

Protecting our climate requires a rapid shift from fossil fuels beginning now. Fossil fuel executives, lobbyists, front-groups, and their political action committees have blocked progress on climate change by buying out politicians and deliberately deceiving the public for decades. The DNC is participating in its own form of climate denial by continuing to accept contributions from fossil fuel executives, PACs, and corporations that are profiting from and responsible for this crisis while blocking the rapid and just transition to clean energy that we urgently need. The majority of Americans and the vast majority of Democrats want good jobs, a livable planet, and corporate cash out of our elections. The Democratic Party should put forward a vision and principles that affirm these goals. As the DNC gathers in Chicago, we demand that the ban on fossil fuel corporate PAC contributions be restored immediately.

There is no way to fight for a just transition away from fossil fuels if you continue to accept money from fossil fuel executives, lobbyists, front-groups, and PACs. The DNC must choose: does it side with grassroots momentum and communities on the frontlines of extraction and climate impacts, or does it side with the corporations and billionaires most responsible for the crisis? It cannot do both.

Sincerely,

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