December 8, 2022

To:

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr. President of the United States Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the US House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer Majority Leader of the US Senate Washington, DC 2051

CC: Members of Congress

Dear President Biden, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader Schumer,

As leaders of environmental and environmental justice organizations representing millions of members and supporters from across the country, we oppose attaching the Building American Energy Security Act of 2022 to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

This deal prioritizes the interests of the fossil fuel industry at the expense of the environment and health of frontline communities, which are disproportionately Black, Indigenous, communities of color and low-wealth communities – a move that is not in line with President Biden's commitments to climate and environmental justice.

Congress should instead be advancing efforts that ensure robust public engagement early in project development and strengthen the requirements for agencies to evaluate cumulative health and climate impacts.

Our opposition includes recommending that Senators vote against any amendment that advances any version of the Building American Energy Security Act.

Sincerely,

Jane Kleeb

Founder & President

Bold Alliance

Kierán Suckling Executive Director

Center for Biological Diversity

DaMareo Cooper & Analilia Mejia

Co-Executive Directors

Center for Popular Democracy

Mike Tidwell

Founder and Director

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Jamie Rappaport Clark

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Grassroots Global Justice Alliance

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Founding President and CEO

GreenLatinos

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Annie Leonard

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Honor the Earth

Tom Goldtooth

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Indigenous Environmental Network

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People's Action

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Port Arthur Community Action Network

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Jamie Williams President

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Executive Director & Co-Founder WE ACT for Environmental Justice

Omega and Brenda Wilson

Co-Founders

West End Revitalization Association

Erik Schlenker-Goodrich Executive Director Western Environmental Law Center

Erik Molvar Executive Director Western Watersheds Project John Horning Executive Director WildEarth Guardians

Maurice Mitchell National Director Working Families Party

Dr. Crystal Cavalier-Keck and Jason Crazy Bear Keck Co-Founders 7 Directions of Service