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SUBJECT:: Action alert on Senate climate title--work needed to thwart Sen. Smith

TO: Myron Ebell <mebell@cei.org> (Myron Ebell <mebell@cei.org> [UNKNOWN])

READ: UNKNOWN

BCC: Debbie S. Fiddelke (CN=Debbie S. Fiddelke/OU=CEQ/O=EOP [CEQ])

READ: UNKNOWN

TEXT:

TO: Cooler Heads Coalition and Conservative Allies

FROM: Myron Ebell, CEI, 331-2256, mebell@cei.org.

SUBJECT: Action Alert on Senate Climate Title--Gordon Smith is at it again

DATE: 9th April 2003

Current State of Play

Chairman Domenici at the request of Republican members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee agreed to re-write the climate title in the draft comprehensive energy bill before mark-up, scheduled for Thursday, 10th April. Not surprisingly, Senator Gordon Smith has reportedly told the chairman that he will vote for the Bingaman substitute unless the climate title contains something that he can vote for--that is, something that caters to global warming alarmism. Thus a recorded vote in committee could be lost by one vote if all the Democrats plus Smith vote for the Bingaman substitute, which at a minimum would contain the provisions in last year's Daschle energy bill. Attempts are being made by committee Republicans to produce a draft acceptable to Smith or to come up with a plan to put a place holder in the bill and reach agreement by both sides that the climate title would be put off debated on the Senate floor. There are several dangerous possibilities. One, Some of the objectionable provisions in the original draft could be put back in to satisfy Senator Smith. Two, the Bingaman substitute could be adopted. Three, the chairman and ranking Democrat could agree to work together to reach a bi-partisan compromise.

Action Item

Mark-up of the climate title is still scheduled for 10 AM, Thursday, 10th April (but could be delayed until after the Easter recess). We need to contact the following Senators as soon as possible.

The message should be: please oppose the Bingaman substitute or any other climate title that includes any of the significant provisions that we have opposed. These provisions are: 1) requiring a national strategy to "stabilize and eventually reduce greenhouse gas emissions" plus annual progress reports; 2) legislating a White House office of climate policy and climate czar; and 3) setting up a program to award credits to industry for actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information, please contact Myron Ebell at (202) 331-2256 or mebell@cei.org.

Needs Encouragement

Senator Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.)

Matt Sonnesyn

224-4944

Potential Democratic Supporters
Senator Evan Bayh (D-Ind.)
Emily Duncan
224-5623

Senator Mary Landrieu (D-La.)
Jason Schendle
224-5824

The Problem
Senator Gordon Smith (RINO-Oreg.)
Valerie West
224-3753