

## **The American Clean Energy and Security Act Responsibly Addresses Our Energy Challenges**

September 17, 2009

Dear Democratic Colleague:

The National Republican Campaign Committee (NRCC) has recently claimed that documents from the U.S. Department of Treasury show that the American Clean Energy and Security Act, H.R. 2454, would cost households \$1,761 per year. We wanted to set the record straight and assure you that these claims are simply false.

According to Alan Krueger, Treasury Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy:

The reporting on the Treasury analysis is flat out wrong. Treasury's analysis is consistent with public analyses by the EIA, EPA, and CBO, and the reporting and blogging on this issue ignores the fact that the revenue raised from emission permits would be returned to consumers under both administration and legislative proposals.

It is time for an honest debate about how to solve a long-term challenge and deliver comprehensive energy reform - not for misrepresentations of the facts.

The facts show that H.R. 2454 responsibly addresses our energy challenges and the NRCC's claims do not refute this.

**The Treasury Department has not modeled H.R. 2454.** The NRCC is pointing to Treasury Department documents which pre-date H.R. 2454 and merely discuss the amount of revenue which could be generated by a hypothetical climate bill that auctioned 100% of the allowances. In addition, the NRCC assumed that none of that revenue would be returned to consumers. H.R. 2454 takes a fundamentally different approach. H.R. 2454 allocates allowances to protect consumers from potential price increases in electricity and natural gas, returns auction revenue to low-income households, and contains energy efficiency measures to reduce energy bills.

**CBO, EPA, and EIA analyses of H.R. 2454 show that the cost of the bill would be less than 50 cents a day.** The Energy Information Administration estimates that the overall impact on the average household, including the benefit of many of the energy efficiency provisions in the legislation, would be 23 cents per day (\$83 per year). The Environmental Protection Agency projects a cost of 22 to 30 cents per day (\$80 to \$111 per year). The Congressional Budget Office analysis requested by Representative Camp projects a cost of 48 cents per day (\$175 per year), without taking into account all of the bill's energy-saving efficiency measures. None of these cost estimates consider the benefits of reducing global warming.

As the [attached fact sheet](#) illustrates, the American Clean Energy and Security Act will jump start our economy, slash pollution, and enhance our energy independence all while saving consumers money.

Sincerely,

HENRY A. WAXMAN  
Chairman, Committee on Energy and  
Commerce

EDWARD J. MARKEY  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy and  
Environment