



Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life  
*Protecting Creation, Generation to Generation*

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September 24, 2008

U.S. Senate Environment and  
Public Works Committee  
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators:

The Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life was created in 1993 with the aim of catalyzing a distinctively Jewish programmatic and policy response to the environmental crisis. Since that time, COEJL has deepened Jewish community's commitment to the stewardship of creation and mobilizes the resources of Jewish life and learning to protect the Earth and all its inhabitants.

To advance our mission, COEJL:

- Partners with the full spectrum of national Jewish organizations to integrate Jewish values of environmental stewardship into Jewish life;
- Works with synagogues and other local Jewish organizations to bring Jewish environmental education, ecologically-conscious Jewish observance, and opportunities for environmental action to Jewish families and individuals;
- Supports rabbis, educators, and Jewish scholars to develop and distribute materials that express diverse Jewish perspectives on environmental issues;
- Brings a Jewish vision and voice to issues of environmental justice and sustainability, and advocates on behalf of the Jewish community;
- Activates Jewish institutions, local COEJL programs, and individuals (both affiliated with organized Judaism and unaffiliated) in support of environmental protection efforts; and
- Participates in inter-religious and civic coalitions to protect the environment, public health, and our common future.

I am attaching several documents that articulate COEJL's specific policy priorities and positions. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about our work.

Sincerely,

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Jennifer Kefer  
Climate and Energy Program Coordinator, COEJL

Sincerely,



Hadar Susskind  
Washington Director  
Jewish Council for Public Affairs



Jennifer Kefer  
Climate and Energy Program Coordinator  
Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life

Attachments:

1. JCPA/ COEJL Environmental Policy Compendium
2. Statement of Jewish Community Policy Priorities on Energy and the Environment
3. 1997 Resolution on Strengthening Protections for Endangered Species and Habitats
4. 2008 Task Force Concern on Climate and Poverty