



January 15, 2009

Support Passage of the Employee Free Choice Act

On behalf of our more than 1.3 million members and supporters, **I write to express our strong support for the passage of the Employee Free Choice Act.** The Sierra Club believes that reducing global warming pollution and investing in clean energy will create a strong, sustainable economy by creating millions of green jobs. Now more than ever, our country is in dire need of an economic renewal that can provide family- and community-sustaining jobs across our country. Allowing workers the basic right to form a union and to play a greater role in the workplace will be essential to the success of a green and healthy economy.

Protecting workers' freedom of association is closely linked to the efforts to protect the environment and communities. Workers serve as the front line of defense against hazardous pollution, chemical spills and other accidents that can devastate communities. Union workers are better trained to know about the health and safety risks of hazardous chemicals and have greater protections if they blow the whistle on hazards and accidents in the workplace.

Global warming represents not only one of the greatest challenges we face as a generation, but also a tremendous opportunity. By investing in a green energy economy we both combat climate change and create millions of good jobs that help support America's working families. To fully capitalize on the potential of the green economy, we will need a robust and skilled workforce. Passage of the Employee Free Choice Act represents a significant step towards protecting workers' rights to advocate for stronger protections for workers and for communities and I urge you to support its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carl Pope".

Carl Pope
Executive Director
Sierra Club