



# Don't Let Big Coal and the Electric Utilities Hijack the Climate Bill

**The Waxman-Markey Climate Bill (The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, HR 2454) needs three major changes if we are to save the earth.**

## Take Out the Coal Industry Giveaways.

Take out the \$60 billion to \$200 billion “clean coal” giveaways to the coal industry that will allow them to continue polluting for another 20 years. Don't let the Coal Lobby and the Big Utilities hijack climate recovery and our green economic future. Replace the coal giveaways with:

### Amendment #1

**Allocate \$200 Billion toward building a nationwide electrical grid with direct current infrastructure and smart technology. It is the only way that renewable energy can be efficiently delivered from coast to coast at a price consumers can afford to pay.**

## Don't Gut the Clean Air Act.

In 2007, by a slim 5-4 vote, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the authority of the Environmental Protection Agency to regulate CO2 (the largest polluter among the green house gasses) as an “air pollutant.”

According to Congressman Rick Boucher, HR 2454, as currently drafted, would “pre-empt the EPA from regulating CO2.” This would severely weaken the ability of citizens to mount legal challenges to coal plants based upon CO2 emissions.

This was among the provisions that Congressman Boucher stated, “have led most of the electric utilities that burn coal to endorse the approval of the bill in the Energy and Commerce Committee and have persuaded leading coal companies that it was appropriate for the legislation to be approved in the committee.”

Don't gut the Clean Air Act. Only the Environmental Protection Agency should regulate CO2 emissions.

### Amendment #2

**Amend the Boucher “pre-emption” language in HR 2454. Specifically retain the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to regulate CO2 as a “pollutant.”**

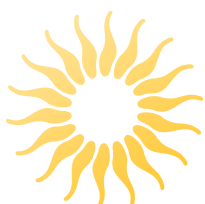
## Restore the 20% Renewable Electricity Standard – Without Loopholes.

HR 2454 allows utilities to game the renewable electricity standard so that only 12% of the electricity generated in 2020 is required to be from renewable sources, with so called “energy efficiencies” making up the difference. Under the “energy efficiency” loopholes written into HR 2454, total renewable electricity could actually drop to 7.3% by 2030 versus 11% under a business as usual scenario!

This renewable electricity standard “energy efficiency” loophole is a job killer that could effectively halt construction of new large scale solar, wind, geothermal and other renewable energy facilities. Over 3.7 million construction jobs could be lost. Don't kill the promise of a green jobs economic recovery!

### Amendment #3

**Restore the Renewable Electricity Standard to 20% by 2020 – without job killing “energy efficiency” loopholes.**



**REAP** Renewable Energy Accountability Project

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