April 27, 2017

Dear President Trump,

As you contemplate your actions related to the Paris Agreement we would like to share with you the following conditions we believe should be met if the United States of America is to remain a party to the Agreement.

As you know, President Obama pledged a 26 to 28 percent reduction in U.S. greenhouse gas emission by 2025, compared to a 2005 baseline. This target would cause irreparable harm to our economy, particularly our manufacturing and energy sectors, and should be rejected. A recent report by the American Council for Capital Formation, for example, found achieving this pledge would reduce our gross domestic product by $250 billion by 2025 and reduce economy-wide employment by 2.7 million jobs.

In response, the U.S. should present a new pledge that does no harm to our economy. Unlike President Obama’s opaque process to determine his pledge, the determination should be transparent, reflect a range of economic scenarios, and take in adequate input from the private sector and other interested parties. We should showcase the energy security, consumer, and emission benefits produced by the shale revolution and emphasize the importance of baseload power generation, including highly efficient and low emission coal-fired and nuclear power plants, to grid reliability. We must include plans to drive technology innovation to help ensure a future for fossil fuels within the context of the global climate agenda.

The U.S. should not make additional transfers to the Green Climate Fund. The Obama Administration gave $1 billion to this Fund, including a $500 million payment shortly before your inauguration. Given this investment, we shouldn’t relinquish our seat on the Green Climate Fund. We should use our power to veto any projects deemed wasteful and harmful to global energy security efforts and poverty eradication objectives in the developing world.

Lastly, the U.S. should use its seat at the Paris table to defend and promote our commercial interests, including our manufacturing and fossil fuel sectors. Our engagement must prevent the development of harmful policies which undermine economic growth and energy security here and abroad. We should work closely with our allies to develop, deploy, and commercialize cleaner technologies to help ensure a future for fossil fuels within the context of the global climate agenda, including support for the deployment of highly efficient and low emission coal, as well as carbon capture, utilization, and storage technologies, in global markets.
Thank you for your genuine consideration of these conditions we believe must all be met in order to make the Paris Agreement work for the American people.

Sincerely,

Kevin Cramer  
Member of Congress

Virginia Foxx  
Member of Congress

Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress

Larry Bucshon, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Markwayne Mullin  
Member of Congress

Billy Long  
Member of Congress

Chris Collins  
Member of Congress

Gregg Harper  
Member of Congress

Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress