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March 23, 2010

Dear Friends,

Please accept my warmest greetings as you gather to push for a revamping of our country's energy policy and leading the world in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

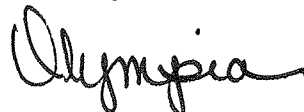
Maine has been a leader in moving forward with renewable energy from being the State that had the fourth fastest growth in wind energy production last year, and earlier this month placing the most advanced tidal energy turbine in the country into service in Eastport. There is no question that the United States must retool our energy policy and develop incentives that will encourage our renewable energy and energy efficiency industries and reduce carbon emissions to what the scientific community believes is a manageable level to avoid catastrophic effects. Finally, any legislation must fully and carefully frame an approach that also maintains America's economic well-being as a top priority, especially given the current levels of unemployment and economic uncertainty.

Like you, I am very concerned about climate change and I believe that domestic action is necessary to address this global problem before it becomes an even greater burden for future generations to confront. I do not come lightly or lately to this issue, having cosponsored the Global Warming Prevention Act of 1988 while a Member of the House of Representatives. That bill established national goals for the reduction of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from 1987 levels by at least 20 percent by the year 2005 through a mix of Federal and State energy policies.

I want to be clear that I continue to be an active participant in the ongoing climate change debate. I have met with Senators Kerry, Graham, and Lieberman and look forward to reviewing their legislative proposal to address climate change.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your views and I look forward to receiving your letter. I value the opinion of Maine's employers and look forward to working with you to address energy policy and grow a clean energy economy.

Sincerely,



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United States Senator

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