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April 22, 2009

The Honorable Hilda Solis
Secretary
Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210

Dear Secretary Solis:

The House Committee on Energy and Commerce has held a number of hearings related to climate change. During those hearings, some members claimed climate change legislation will create millions of green jobs. With the release of the draft *American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009* (ACES), proponents have continued their claims about the creation of green jobs, which "[cannot] be shipped overseas."

Given the Committee's current legislative interest in this issue, we respectfully request the assistance of the Department in providing information about green jobs within two weeks of receipt of this letter:

1. What is a green job? Who gets to define what a green job is? What is the authority for this official to make this determination?

2. How was this definition of green jobs developed? Please list all the organizations, both government and private, that provided input in the development of this definition.

3. In which sector(s) of the economy are green jobs envisioned? Has an analysis been performed of the estimated numbers of green jobs that may be created as a result of ACES or other similar climate change legislation? If so, how many such jobs would be created and over what time periods would they be created?

4. Would new green jobs such as those associated with ACES or similar legislation require workers to undertake significant new training and/or education? If so, please describe the nature of that new training and/or education, the anticipated costs and timelines associated with that training and/or education, and who will pay those costs?

5. Would significant numbers of workers have to relocate for green jobs? If so, what are the anticipated numbers of workers that may have to relocate and where would they have to relocate? When defining green jobs, does the definition take into consideration whether a job is located in the U.S. or abroad, or whether a job was transferred abroad from the U.S. as a result of U.S. laws and regulations?

6. Have there been analyses performed that estimate the average wages associated with anticipated green jobs? What is the expected average wage of a green job? How does that compare to the average wage of a non-green job? What is the supporting data for these wage figures?

7. Will green jobs be in addition to non-green jobs or will they replace non-green jobs? If the green jobs are replacing non-green jobs, how many non-green jobs will be lost for every one green job created? If more non-green jobs are lost than the number of green jobs created, is that disparity the result of increased efficiencies or other factors? If other factors, please list those factors and describe how they impact the loss and creation of green jobs and non-green jobs. Please also explain the methodology for determining the net effect on employment.

Your cooperation and assistance is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Joe Barton
Ranking Member

Greg Walden
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

cc: The Honorable Henry Waxman, Chairman
The Honorable Bart Stupak, Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations