

Speaker Nancy Pelosi  
1236 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
CC: Congresswoman Rosa Delauro, Congressman Jim McGovern

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

We, the undersigned organizations, oppose including the Growing Climate Solutions Act and the SUSTAINS Act in the upcoming Omnibus Appropriations Act. Both of these bills are poison pills that would give immense power and credibility to carbon trading schemes while greenlighting a corporate takeover of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

USDA is in the midst of spending billions of dollars on pilot programs, many of which represent massive handouts to some of the world's largest agribusinesses, to identify effective ways to mitigate climate change and compensate farmers in the process. Congress should not be simultaneously charging USDA with rubber stamping these corporations and their carbon trading schemes. USDA Conservation Programs should remain a prominent alternative to these schemes; allowing corporations to use their contributions to shape these programs would create an extreme a conflict of interest.

Carbon offset programs are ineffective at reducing emissions and pollute environmental justice communities. They are also incompatible with truly sustainable agricultural practices and may drive further consolidation on farms and agribusinesses. Certifying corporations as USDA-approved carbon traders will only lend legitimacy to these scams. For a comprehensive outline of our opposition to the Growing Climate Solutions Act and soil carbon markets, please see [this letter](#).

The SUSTAINS Act would allow private corporations to provide funding for USDA Conservation programs and specify the kinds of practices they want to support. This support would again represent USDA legitimizing corporate interests with its own name and potentially taxpayer dollars. The bill even includes sponsorship opportunities for corporations contributing, turning USDA Conservation Programs into an advertising forum for corporate greenwashing.

The SUSTAINS Act also requires producers to negotiate with corporations if selling carbon credits generated from practices funded by that corporation. In other words, farmers would be contractually obligated to paying a portion of any carbon offset back to the company who provided the funding through USDA.

This bill is a different version of the Growing Climate Solutions Act under different branding. Both would legitimize corporate greenwashing and predatory practices by putting USDA's name, approval and blessing on a corporate power grab of farmer focused conservation programs.

We urge you to oppose the inclusion of the Growing Climate Solutions Act and the SUSTAINS Act in the Omnibus Appropriations Act.

Sincerely,

1000 Grandmother's for Future Generations  
350 Eugene

350 Seattle  
350 Triangle

Alabama Interfaith Power & Light  
Animals Are Sentient Beings Inc  
Art Speaks Out Loud  
At The BirdHouse  
Athens County's Future Action Network  
Bee City  
Belief Relief!  
Between the Waters  
Broome Tioga Green Party  
Campaign for Family Farms and the Environment  
Clean Air Now  
Climate Action Campaign of the Humboldt  
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
Climate Justice Alliance  
Collins Grazing & Land Stream  
Color Brighton Green  
Creation Collaborative  
Culture Bearer, Sacred Grounds TM  
DivinAmerica  
Docbezz Wellness  
EcoMiniFarmSystem  
Elmirans and Friends Against Fracking  
Environmental Transformation Movement of Flint  
EXCELLIM, LLC  
Experimental Farm Network  
Extinction Rebellion San Francisco Bay Area  
Family Farm Defenders  
Farm Action Fund  
Flint Rising  
Food & Water Watch  
Free Food  
Fridays for Future US  
Friends of the Earth  
Frog and Bee Galaxy Farm  
GAIA Services  
GBC Sustainability Team  
Green State Solutions  
Greenhorns  
Hollywood Orchard  
Hope Havura  
Indigenous Environmental Network  
Integrity Soils

Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice  
JC Hallenborg LLC  
Karme Choling  
Kettle Song Farm  
LA Pachamama  
Land and Leadership Initiative  
Larson Farm and Creamery LLC  
Living Earth Action Group  
Locust Point Community Garden  
Mad Hatter Compost Tea  
Marin Realty  
Marine Biology & Environmental Technologies  
Maryland Pesticide Education Network  
Mason County Climate Justice  
Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition Action  
Michigan Food and Earth Partners  
Michigan Student Power Alliance  
Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network (MUUSJN)  
Mick Miller Construction LLC  
Mid-Missouri Peaceworks  
Mid-Ohio Valley Climate Action  
Miskell's Conservation Land consulting LLC  
Moon and Stars  
National Family Farm Coalition  
New York Lawyers for the Public Interest  
NJ State Industrial Union Council  
NOFA/Mass  
North Country Earth Action  
North Shore Audubon Society  
Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (NOFA-VT)  
Northeast Organic Farming Association-Interstate Council  
Occupy Bergen County (New Jersey)  
Oil and Gas Action Network  
On the level builders  
Organic Consumers Association Organization  
People for a Healthy Environment  
People's Justice Council  
Private business owner  
PSR Arizona  
Regenerate Denton

Rural Vermont  
Sanctuary Garden  
SaveOurSoil  
Self Employed  
Sisters of Charity Federation  
Sisters of St. Dominic of Blauvelt, New York  
Small local farmer  
Socially Responsible Agriculture Project  
Soil Carbon Coalition  
Soil Sponge Collective  
Space Age Entertainment  
STEAM ONWARD INC  
Studio Hill  
Sunflower Alliance  
Svtfarm and Land Care Cooperative  
Tablehurst Farm  
Terra Advocati  
The Last Plastic Straw  
The People's Justice Council  
Thomas Berry Forum for Ecological Dialogue  
Three Story Farm, Ithaca, NY  
Unconditional Freedom  
Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic  
Community  
Vermont Healthy Soils Coalition  
Vermonters for a New Economy  
Wall of Women  
We Eat Green Too  
White River Natural Resources Conservation  
District  
Women Food and Agriculture Network (WFAN)  
Womxn from the Mountain  
Woodshed Gardens  
Youth Climate Strike Los Angeles