

July 31, 2013

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
H-232 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
235 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Murphy Amendment #12 to H.R. 1582

Dear Speaker Boehner and Leader Pelosi:

The National Construction Alliance II supports Representative Murphy's amendment #12 to H.R. 1582, the Energy Consumers Relief Act of 2013, which would prohibit the use of a new definition for the "social cost of carbon" when the federal government performs cost-benefit analyses. The National Construction Alliance II – a partnership between two of the nation's largest construction unions, the International Union of Operating Engineers and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America – is concerned that this esoteric provision embedded in a Department of Energy addendum to a rulemaking for microwave ovens could have far-reaching implications for workers and the economy.

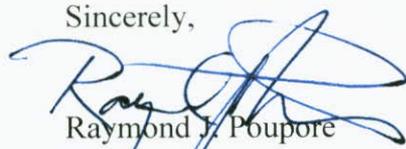
On May 31, 2013, Department of Energy first began using a higher dollar value to estimate the "social cost of carbon." The Administration decided that society now collects \$36 in benefits instead of \$22 for every ton of carbon dioxide emissions removed from the air, subtly but dramatically changing the calculation upon which the impacts of regulations are based. There was no public debate on this new "social cost of carbon" figure. Stakeholders never had a chance to weigh in on it.

The National Construction Alliance II supports a congressional "stay" on the implementation of this new social cost of carbon figure until a thorough review of the method used by the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency can be conducted. The subcommittee with jurisdiction over the issue has launched such an investigation. While that review is ongoing, the social cost of carbon regulation should be placed on hold.

The National Construction Alliance II respectfully requests that you support the Murphy Amendment to H.R. 1582, the Energy Consumers Relief Act of 2013.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Raymond J. Poupore
Executive Vice President



UNITED BROTHERHOOD
of CARPENTERS & JOINERS
of AMERICA

Douglas J. McCarron
General President



INTERNATIONAL UNION
of OPERATING ENGINEERS

James T. Callahan
General President