

June 18, 2015

Dear Representative:

On behalf of our 2.4 million members and supporters nationwide, the Sierra Club urges you to vote **no** on HR 2146, or fast-track legislation. Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), if passed, would now *explicitly prevent* the United States Trade Representative from seeking to address climate change in trade agreements.

Yesterday, Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner (WI-05) published [a letter](#) from U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman easing concerns that the fast-track bill does not provide “any new authority to enter into climate change agreements.”

The Sierra Club is deeply concerned that, with passage of the Customs bill, a new negotiating objective in fast-track would “ensure[s] that trade agreements do not require changes to U.S. laws or obligate the United States with respect to global warming or climate change.”<sup>1</sup>

There are countries in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) that are seeking to include language in the pact on climate change. In addition, the European Union is pushing for provisions on climate change in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). As Congressman Levin just stated, “if we know our negotiating partners are interested in addressing climate change, why would we handcuff our own negotiators from being able to negotiate these provisions and obtain additional concessions as well?”

Twenty-first century trade agreements must *ensure* that climate policies not be undermined by trade rules and must address trade-related climate issues. Fast-track takes us in exactly the wrong direction at the exact moment when action on climate change has never been more dire.

Thank you for joining us in voting no for this anti-climate legislation.

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<sup>1</sup> Amendment to the Senate Amendment to HR 644, P. 251. <http://amendments-rules.house.gov/amendments/sa64461015000943943.pdf>