

August 27, 2012

The Honorable Joseph Heck
U.S. House of Representatives
132 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-2803

The Honorable Paul Gosar
U.S. House of Representatives
504 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0301

The Honorable Martin T. Heinrich
U.S. House of Representatives
336 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-3101

The Honorable Mike Thompson
U.S. House of Representatives
231 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0501

RE: The Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act of 2012 (H.R. 5991 and H.R. 6154)

Dear Representatives Heck, Heinrich, Gosar, and Thompson:

The groups below represent millions of hunters, anglers, fish and wildlife professionals, and outdoor enthusiasts. We thank you for introducing H.R. 5991 and H.R. 6154, the Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act. Sportsmen are supportive of the development of clean, renewable energy resources on public lands as long as it is done in the right places and in a manner that conserves fish and wildlife habitat. The provisions of the bill that establish a pilot leasing program for wind and solar energy development on public lands and apply a substantial portion of royalty revenue to mitigation of impacts to fish and wildlife habitat are essential to balancing development and hunting and fishing opportunities. Also eligible for use of the funds is securing recreational access to Federal land from willing sellers for the purpose of providing enhanced public access to existing land that is inaccessible or restricted. The Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act would help wind and solar development move forward on appropriate public lands in a way that sustains the West's unparalleled sporting heritage. Again we thank you for introducing this important legislation, and we look forward to working with you and the delegations of other western states as the bill moves forward.

Sincerely,

American Fisheries Society
American Fly Fishing Trade Association
American Sportfishing Association
Anglers United of Arizona
Archery Trade Association
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
B.A.S.S., LLC
Berkley Conservation Institute, Pure Fishing
Bowhunting Preservation Alliance
Bull Moose Sportsmen's Alliance
Camp Fire Club of America
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
Conservation Force
Dallas Safari Club
Delta Waterfowl

Ducks Unlimited
Houston Safari Club
International Game Fish Association
National Wild Turkey Federation
North American Grouse Partnership
Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association
Public Lands Foundation
Quality Deer Management Association
Ruffed Grouse Society
The Wildlife Society
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Trout Unlimited
Wild Sheep Foundation
Wildlife Forever
Wildlife Management Institute