



# National Parks Conservation Association

Protecting Parks for Future Generations

May 3, 2006

Honorable Thomas R. Carper  
513 Hart Senate Office Building  
Second and C Streets NE  
Washington DC 20510

Honorable Lamar Alexander  
302 Hart Senate Office Building  
Second and C Streets NE  
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senators Carper and Alexander:

On behalf of the National Parks Conservation Association, I would like to thank you for introducing the Clean Air Planning Act, a bill that will provide healthier air to millions of Americans, help restore clear skies to our national parks, and take important first steps toward addressing global warming.

Coal-fired power plants are a leading source of the pollutants that cause asthma attacks and respiratory disease in people, habitat damage and hazy skies in our parks, and mercury-laden fish in our rivers and lakes. They are also the main industrial source of the pollution that causes global warming. Technologies are readily available that allow these plants to operate much more cleanly. The Clean Air Planning Act would employ flexible market mechanisms and adequate lead-time so these plants can affordably apply the technologies that will help clean our air.

A major advantage of the Clean Air Planning Act over competing approaches is that it achieves environmental progress without scrapping existing protections. The Clean Air Planning Act builds on the strengths of the Clean Air Act, a law that has enjoyed wide bi-partisan support for more than 30 years.

Taken together, the provisions in the Clean Air Planning Act provide a comprehensive and balanced solution to the problem of coal-fired power plant pollution. Your efforts will go a long way toward reducing this pollution, protecting public health, and restoring our national parks to majestic wonders for all Americans to enjoy. The National Parks Conservation Association is pleased to support the Clean Air Planning Act.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Kiernan  
President

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