



September 16, 2009

Dear Member of Parliament,

Canada and the world must address the climate crisis, one of the most urgent issues of our times. In just a few short weeks, more than 190 countries will meet in Copenhagen, Denmark to forge a new global climate change agreement.

Canada's government continues to generate serious international criticism for its unconstructive role at climate negotiations. Failing to commit to needed domestic emission reduction targets, contribute our fair share to help Global South countries adapt to the impacts of climate change and permitting ongoing growth in the tar sands all add to our shameful reputation on climate issues.

This must change.

It is important for the Canadian delegation to arrive at the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen (December 7-18, 2009) with commitments to legally binding, science-based greenhouse gas reduction targets.

Bill C-311, The Climate Change Accountability Act, compels the implementation of a comprehensive plan and a set reporting schedule to achieve emission reductions of 25 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020 and 80 per cent below 1990 levels by 2050.

I am concerned that our country has not already committed to the emission reduction targets this Act will establish, which are consistent with the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Further delays are not an option given the gravity of the consequences of not acting on the climate crisis.

This Wednesday, October 21st, Members of Parliament will vote on a proposed extension of study that means passage of Bill C-311 may be stalled until past December. I am asking that you oppose any extension that will delay the passage of the Climate Change Accountability Act and ensure that Bill C-311 is passed in time for Copenhagen.

Canada should be playing a leading role in Copenhagen. Passage of this crucial legislation before the talks in Copenhagen is an important step in the right direction.