

February 6, 2019

Representative Eliot Engel
U.S. Congress
c/o Bronx Office, 3655 Johnson Avenue
Bronx, NY 10463

Dear Representative Engel:

We have come together this afternoon to deliver to you, via your Bronx office, Green New Deal petitions (attached) signed by your constituents since the 2018 mid-term elections. We are individuals as well as members of community organizations in your district including **Bronx Climate Justice North, North Bronx Racial Justice, Northwest Bronx Indivisible, NYCD-16 Indivisible, Bronx/Upper Manhattan Democratic Socialists of America**, and others. We are united in deep concern for the future.

As you know, the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) stated in the fall of 2018 that there are at most 12 years in which to head off catastrophic warming and feedback effects that will endanger civilization as we know it and the viability of the biosphere. There is probably considerably less time.

For too long, fossil fuel executives and the politicians they bankroll have actively sowed doubt among the public about climate change to protect their power and profits. Meanwhile, Indigenous peoples, communities of color, and low-income families around the world suffer the worst impacts of pollution and the climate crisis.

Because our window for action to prevent catastrophic climate change is quickly closing, we're calling on you to fight for the bold, just climate solutions we need — before our communities and the planet run out of time.

We need bold solutions to protect communities on the frontlines of the climate crisis, not big polluters' profits. We need real climate leadership. *We need a Green New Deal.*

A Green New Deal is not a single policy intervention. It is a just, equitable multi-pronged policy approach to transform our economy and energy system and help build sustainable and resilient communities. ***While there remains space for debate on the policies that will make up a Green New Deal, we ask that you support legislation that includes the following:***

- Halt all new fossil fuel extraction, infrastructure and subsidies, and transition power generation to 100% renewable energy by 2030 or sooner.
- Rapidly decarbonize the agriculture and transportation sectors, and expand access to public transportation.
- Ensure a Fair & Just Transition led by impacted workers and communities, including low income and communities of color, without relying on corporate schemes or market-based mechanisms.
- Uphold Indigenous Rights.
- Pass a national jobs guarantee, creating good jobs with collective bargaining and family-sustaining wages.

This bold, just, and necessary vision for a Green New Deal has broad support from 626 progressive organizations (see attached letter), more than 45 members of Congress, and 80% of American voters.

Across the country this week, people are taking action nationwide to deliver hundreds of thousands of messages from Americans of all walks of life calling on their representatives to support a Green New Deal in line with what science and justice demand. This national wave of action in support of a Green New Deal has been organized by a coalition that includes 350.org, Friends of the Earth, Food and Water Watch, Greenpeace, Sunrise Movement, Center for Biological Diversity, Climate Hawks Vote, and Oil Change International.

In sum, we are here today to make the following requests of you:

1. To actively support a Green New Deal that contains the above 5 components.

Thank you for signing on as an original co-sponsor of the Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez/Markey resolution on a Green New Deal. We ask that you work for as strong a resolution, and eventually a bill, as possible. Co-sponsorship is just a beginning of the leadership we need.

2. To immediately sign, and publicly announce your signature on, the “No Fossil Fuels Money Pledge”: <http://nofossilfuelmoney.org/>

It is past time for elected officials and candidates for elected office to reject support from the fossil fuel industry and protect the health of our families, our climate, and our democracy.

Representative Engel, your active, vocal, and sustained work on the climate crisis and the Green New Deal is just as important as your taking the above actions. We are looking for vigorous, visible leadership on an ongoing basis. In your recent newsletter, you said, “Climate change cannot wait.” We agree. We look forward to your response to our requests.

Sincerely,



Attachments: Constituent Petition Signatures; 1/10/19 Letter to All Members of Congress from 626 Progressive Organizations Requesting Support for a Green New Deal