[Sender Address]

[Recipient Address]

September 14, 2019

Dear [Name of Representative],

Every year, the [Name of Party] pushes environmental policies to deal responsibly with climate change at the local and national level. Every year, we carry signs, chant our slogans, and tell our children that we’re fighting for them to have a livable world before it’s too late. And every year, scientists tell us that another year has passed where the world at large moved more or less along a business-as-usual emissions pathway.

I am reaching out because I am a voter in [Region], and because I respect your efforts to lead the conversation on climate solutions. Year after year, it becomes increasingly clear that climate change is a global collective action problem. It requires a global collective action solution. But every effort to date at the international level is based on good will and voluntary contributions. National emissions goals are developed independent of the scientific forecasts, no one independently monitors countries’ progress, and countries that fail to meet their goals face neither incentives nor repercussions. The plan at present is to rely on the unfaltering goodwill of every political actor across the planet over the next century, with every bad incentive working against us, and with every backslider free to take advantage.

In theory, this shouldn’t work. In practice, we see that it doesn’t.

We need to do better. You can help by using your position to call for a Real Climate Accord. Eventually, the framework of a Real Climate Accord will have to include:

* **A global carbon budget**, supported by science and linked to a given level of warming, which is
* **Apportioned over time** between nations based on their wealth, existing energy mix, development status, and other political considerations;
* **Measurable** and reported by a designated independent monitoring body; and
* **Enforceable**, with the goal of creating effective incentives to comply, by at least two types of mechanisms:
  + **Sanctions**: for developed states, the imposition of carbon tariffs or other trade penalties for non-compliance
  + **Development and adaptation funding**: for developing states, the withholding of climate adaptation and clean development funding, which would be otherwise supplied at a level that effectively incentivizes their participation

A Real Climate Accord may include more specific elements, but it may also allow flexibility in how to comply otherwise.

This is a huge demand to make, a huge change in how we align with the international community. But if we don’t start at least asking, the change will never come. Every impossible change starts with a demand. And if we are ever to be successful in the fight against climate change, this impossible change may soon be quite inevitable.

We have to start demanding that the international community move towards a model that has at least a chance at success sooner than later, and you have an essential role to play. In advocating for a Real Climate Accord, you can inspire voters with a real solution and project leadership on behalf of [Name of Region] onto the world stage.

I hope that you will agree, and vocally support a Real Climate Accord in your environmental platform.

Sincerely,

[Sender]

[Contact information]