August 27, 2012

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

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

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

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