



April 26, 2004

Senator John McCain
United States Senate
241 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
FAX: (202) 228 2862

Senator Joseph Lieberman
United States Senate
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
FAX: (202) 224 9750

Re: Ski Industry Support for S. 139

Dear Senators McCain and Lieberman:

We are writing to update you on the growing number of ski areas that support the Climate Stewardship Act, S. 139. As you may know, last fall forty ski areas endorsed the bill. **As of this spring, 70 resorts across 20 states are now supporting the Climate Stewardship Act.** These seventy endorsing resorts, listed below, remain committed to raising awareness of the problem of global warming and helping apply solutions to solve it.

There are plenty of good reasons for ski resorts to be concerned about climate change and its potential impacts on winter recreation. Scientific models suggest that as warming continues, we could experience decreased snowpack, warmer nights, wetter shoulder seasons, and reduced weather predictability. All of these changes affect our industry, as fewer operating days would obviously impact our bottom line, warmer nights can impact our ability to make snow, and spring rain can wash away our base at a critical time of year for skiing and snowboarding. As diehard skiers and snowboarders, we think winter is already too short. We view climate change as a long-term problem, and want to implement reasonable, bi-partisan supported measures now to help solve it.

Ski areas have taken tremendous steps to reduce our own GHG emissions, including using pollution-free wind energy to run buildings and lifts, applying energy-efficient "green building" techniques, retrofitting existing facilities to save energy, replacing inefficient compressors in snowmaking operations, using alternative fuels in resort vehicle fleets, and providing or promoting car pooling or mass transit use by guests and employees. We are a relatively small source of greenhouse gas emissions, however, and will need the help of other industries to turn this problem around. We support the Climate Stewardship Act because it will encourage major industrial emitters to invest in the most cost-effective means to reduce emissions. Over the long term, investments in efficiency should actually reduce future energy costs. While resorts and other businesses may see a small increase in their electricity rates, these costs will be manageable with periodic efficiency upgrades such as replacing outdated compressors in snowmaking equipment. These measures will reduce the electricity and fuel bills ski resorts pay in the long run.

Please let us know if there is anything else we can do help ensure the passage of S. 139. Our contact person is Geraldine Link ((720) 963-4205 or glink@nsaa.org) at the National Ski Areas Association.

Best Regards,

CALIFORNIA

Alpine Meadows Ski Resort
Dodge Ridge Ski Area
Mammoth Mountain and June Mountain Ski Areas
Mountain High Resort
Northstar-at-Tahoe
Sierra-at-Tahoe Ski Resort
Sugar Bowl Ski Resort

COLORADO

Arapahoe Basin
Aspen Highlands
Aspen Mountain
Beaver Creek Resort
Breckenridge Ski Resort
Buttermilk Mountain
Copper Mountain Resort
Keystone Ski Resort
Powderhorn Resort
Snowmass Ski Area
Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp.
Telluride Ski & Golf Company
Vail Mountain
Winter Park Resort

IDAHO

Bogus Basin Mountain Resort
Lookout Pass Ski & Recreation Area
Schweitzer Mountain Resort

MAINE

Sugarloaf/USA
Sunday River Ski Resort

MASSACHUSETTS

Wachusett Mountain Ski Area

MICHIGAN

Crystal Mountain

MONTANA

Bridger Bowl

NEVADA

Heavenly Ski Resort

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Attitash Bear Peak

Cranmore Mountain Resort
Loon Mountain Recreation Corp.
Waterville Valley Resort

NEW JERSEY

Mountain Creek

NEW YORK

Bristol Mountain Winter Resort
Greek Peak Mountain Resort
Holiday Valley Resort
Hunter Mountain
Peek 'n Peak Resort
Windham Mountain

NORTH CAROLINA

Cataloochee Ski Area

OREGON

Mt. Ashland Ski and Snowboard Resort
Mt. Bachelor
Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Resort and Cooper Spur Mountain Resort
Timberline Lodge & Ski Area

PENNSYLVANIA

Liberty Mountain Resort
Seven Springs
Ski Roundtop

UTAH

Alta Ski Area
The Canyons
Snowbird Ski & Summer Resort
Sundance

VERMONT

Haystack Ski Area
Killington and Pico Resorts
Mad River Glen
Mount Snow Resort
Okemo Mountain Resort
Smugglers' Notch Resort
Stratton Mountain

VIRGINIA

Massanutten Ski Resort
Wintergreen Resort

WASHINGTON

49° North Ski Area
Crystal Mountain
Mission Ridge
Stevens Pass
The Summit at Snoqualmie

WEST VIRGINIA

Snowshoe Mountain Resort

WYOMING

Grand Targhee Resort

Jackson Hole Mountain Resort

cc: Senator Bill Frist
Senator Thomas Daschle
Floyd DesChamps
Tim Profeta