



July 30, 2008

RE: S. 906

Dear Chairman Boxer and Ranking Member Inhofe,

Last year, legislation to prohibit the export of mercury was introduced in both the Senate and House. This legislation would ban the export of surplus mercury from the U.S., an important measure to advance our shared objective of reducing global mercury pollution and protecting public health worldwide. On November 13, 2007, the House of Representatives passed by voice vote HR 1534, the “Mercury Export Ban Act of 2007.” HR 1534 was the subject of extensive review and negotiation among the most interested parties, resulting in an amended bill that was endorsed by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), the American Chemistry Council, The Chlorine Institute, Inc., the National Mining Association, and the Environmental Council of States (ECOS), as shown in the attached letter. As the Environment and Public Works Committee prepares to mark-up the mercury export ban legislation, we urge the Committee to report without amendments the substitute that is identical to the House-passed version.

Sincerely,

Frances G. Beinecke, President
Natural Resources Defense Council

R. Steven Brown, Executive Director
Environmental Council of States

Jack N. Gerard, President & CEO
American Chemistry Council

Arthur E. Dungan, President
The Chlorine Institute, Inc.

Kraig R. Naasz, President & CEO
National Mining Association

Cc: Environment and Public Works Committee members