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Global Warming Story You Haven't Heard

Black carbon casts a deadly shadow worldwide, from the sprawl of Los Angeles, to the slums of Mumbai, to the Arctic ice that sustains polar bears and other wildlife. Quick action to cut black carbon can slow Arctic melting, fight global warming and save lives.

Earthjustice can help make it happen.

Members of the Arctic Council, including the United States, met in Norway in 2009 and agreed to undertake a two-year study on black carbon's role in global warming, and what can be done to control it. The same week, Nobel Laureate Al Gore called for the world to burn less diesel fuel and wood to reduce black carbon emissions. And four U.S. senators, including John Kerry and Barbara Boxer, introduced legislation to urge the EPA to study the problem.

That's a good start. But studies aren't enough. We must urge the United States to take action now to reduce black carbon emissions at home and abroad. We must encourage EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson to continue cracking down on dirty diesel fuels, and encourage Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to make the U.S. a global leader on this issue.

Europe and the U.S. and Europe must lead on this issue by committing to stricter standards at home for diesel engines and other sources of black carbon pollution, and by committing to increased financial and technological assistance to the developing world to reduce black carbon pollution from diesel, home cooking and heating and other sources.

It's important that Secretary Clinton and Administrator Jackson know you want them to act—now. ([More information.](#))

ACTION TODAY: Make your voice heard! To send a letter, enter your information below and click on the "Send Message" button.

OUR MESSAGE TO:

Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary Lisa P. Jackson

OVERVIEW

Action: Letter Campaign

Issue: Black Carbon

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YOUR MESSAGE:

Dear Secretary Clinton and Administrator Jackson,

Rapid reduction of black carbon emissions and aviation induced water vapor releases are key components of an effective, early action response strategy to slow global and Arctic warming, avert potentially catastrophic tipping points, and provide immediate health benefits in countries that implement mitigation measures.

Sec. Clinton: As coauthor of S. 3489 in the 110th Congress, you have shown leadership on this issue. Now it is crucial that the United States show global leadership. I urge you to work for a black carbon/water vapor action plan that includes:

-- Adoption of the recommendations of leading climate scientists at the workshop on Short-Lived Pollutants and Arctic Climate held in September 2008 in Oslo, including immediate implementation of a black carbon reduction strategy for key sources like diesel engines, agricultural burning and marine

Sincerely,
 [Your Name]
 [Your Address]
 [City, State ZIP]