



March 19, 2020

Dear Honorable Member of Congress,

As a member of Congress who is charged with protecting all the people of our nation, including the health, safety and rights of future generations, as you consider and advance the economic stimulus package to deal with the COVID19/Coronavirus Crisis, you must ensure that the bailouts and economic investments advanced do not advance the Climate Crisis.

That means there can be no economic bailouts or stimulus for the oil & gas industry, including no bailouts or economic stimulus for the fossil fuel industry including shale gas or oil fracking facilities, operations or companies; no bailouts or economic stimulus for oil, fracked gas or fracked gas liquid pipelines, compressors or LNG export facilities or operations; no bailouts or economic stimulus for the coal industry or single use and non-essential plastics which depend upon fossil fuels as a significant ingredient. It means no bailouts or economic stimulus for industry or development that fail to avoid, reduce, address and mitigate their climate changing impacts.

It also means that any economic stimulus legislation should explicitly require an analysis of the climate changing impacts of investments to be made and should explicitly provide funds, funding, economic stimulus and support for clean and renewable energy projects; for business, industry and operations that reduce pollution and climate changing emissions; for industries that displace climate harmful products and operations with products and operations that contribute positively to avoiding and reducing climate changing emissions; for development and activities that preserve and protect the environments that help protect us from the ravages of climate change; and for environmental cleanup projects that will provide health, safety, environmental and therefore economic benefits for future generations.

Like the COVID19/Coronavirus Crisis, the Climate Crisis is costing communities their health, their safety, their lives and their livelihoods, it is inflicting unprecedented economic harm that is increasing as the climate crisis advances and intensifies, and in fact it is inflicting even more harm – it is taking people's homes, unleashing more viruses and health harms, desecrating prime agriculture areas, decimating ecological habitats and species, and releasing growing levels of pollution while at the same time destroying the ecosystems that help avoid, reduce and manage pollution harms.

As the estimates of impacts of COVID19/Coronavirus drive you to immediate action, do not forget the cost that Climate Change poses for our country and our world. The WHO estimates that climate change is already causing over 150,000 deaths annually, and this number is expected to **double** in the near future. Increased temperature alone is projected to lead to increases in future mortality on the order of tens of thousands of additional premature deaths per year in cities across the United States by the end of this century. Climate change damages will cost the United States [hundreds of billions of dollars every year](#) from extreme weather events and health-related costs. What's more, instances of threats

like COVID19/Coronavirus will increase as Climate change [compounds the threat of communicable diseases](#) caused by parasites, viruses, and bacteria by extending their breeding seasons and accelerating their geographical expansion.

You cannot allow a response to the COVID19/Coronavirus Crisis that worsens our Climate Crisis. We are watching what you are doing, don't let us down.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maya K. van Rossum". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Maya K. van Rossum
Founder of Green Amendments For The Generations