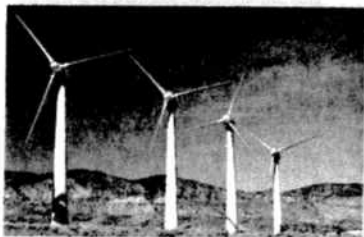


GOOD JOBS A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT A SAFER WORLD

A Strategic Alliance of the United Steelworkers and the Sierra Club



The Blue/Green

A strategic partnership of the United

Historic times demand historic responses. That is why the Sierra Club and the United Steelworkers (USW) are joining forces to build a visionary, values-based response to the anti-environmental and anti-worker policies of the current administration. We are joining together to fight for Good Jobs, A Clean Environment, and A Safer World.

The United Steelworkers, with 850,000 members in North America, and the Sierra Club, with 800,000 members in the United States — our country's largest private sector manufacturing union and its largest grassroots environmental organization — have a long history of collaboration, working for a more just and equitable society in which human impact on our planet is managed for sustainability.

That collaboration dates back to the passage of the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act in the 1970s. In the 1990s we jointly opposed a succession of unfair trade agreements from the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to the Free Trade Area of the Americas. We stood together for democratizing the global economy in the

streets of Seattle in 1999. And we have joined in our advocacy for international labor, human rights, and environmental standards; and in supporting workers' rights here in the United States through such legislation as the Employee Free Choice Act.

But to succeed as a progressive movement, we cannot continue to work as occasional partners. We need to forge an overarching strategy that focuses our resources and the millions of our members, their families, and our supporters on the key issues that will transform our country's overall public policies. We simply must manage our planet's resources for the economic and environmental sustainability critical to constructing a global economy that is fair and equitable.

Visionary Solutions

We need an energy policy that promotes visionary solutions like clean cars and clean energy, not one that rips off consumers; fouls our land, air, and water; threatens our children's health and places our armed forces at risk to defend an ever-increasing addiction to foreign oil. We need a fair trade policy that benefits low income and working people and protects workers' rights and the envi-



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ronment. And we need to protect workers and their communities from irresponsible corporate practices that release toxic chemicals in our workplaces and neighborhoods, endangering us all.

Most importantly, we need a strategic message and concrete actions that unite the labor and environmental movements in providing answers for the American public to the great public policy challenges of our time.

21st Century Policies

A sound 21st century energy policy can create a new generation of domestic manufacturing jobs while reducing global warming and air pollution. Hybrid and other clean cars, public transportation, efficient heating and lighting systems, and clean renewable power plants are the keys to our energy freedom. Producing them can create more than 1.4 million new jobs and strengthen our economy while simultaneously making America more secure.

A just trade policy for the 21st century can promote growth and prosperity across all sectors of

global society, not just for multinational corporations and a few elites, and would embed enforceable labor, environmental, and human rights standards in our trade agreements. An informed 21st century policy on toxic chemicals can protect workers and communities from dangerous chemicals by sounding the alarm on dangers and promoting safer alternatives. Our country is at risk. A century of environmental and workers' rights protections are in danger of being rolled back. We can and must act.

The Core Debate in America

We believe that the core debate in American public policy takes place in the conversations in local communities — in the nation's small town cafes and urban coffee shops, in factory lunch rooms and office towers, in church socials and veterans clubs, in inner city neighborhoods and affluent suburbs. Our organizations are positioned like few others to reach across the historic class, religious, and racial divides of progressive values and create a new conversation grounded in decades of experience on how to civilize the new global economy in which we all participate.



Forging Organizing Teams

To activate our national memberships and local affiliates, we will field teams of labor and environmental organizers in carefully chosen key states. They will spearhead our joint efforts to win local victories for visionary solutions for workers and the environment. In the near future, the USW/SC Alliance will launch its coalition in five states, then expand into at least a dozen by 2008.

We believe that visionary social transformation originates in concrete efforts to achieve real changes that affect people's lives. Thus, we believe that the effort to put more fuel-efficient cars on the road will ignite the conversation about global warming and the social injustices exposed by the 2005 hurricanes. Similarly, fighting for more investment in renewable energy will link the devastating loss of manufacturing jobs in America's heartland communities with a new energy economy whose efficient technologies form the core of a more stable and equitable economic future.

We believe that advocating for true chemical security and a new generation of green chemicals will improve both public security and public health at a time when Americans are deeply concerned about the safety of their families.

We believe that building vocal support for a new vision of international trade that protects

workers' rights and the environment will be a full scale debate over the investment agreements that are reorganizing the global economy for the benefit of a few corporations at the expense of the civil society protections and the great accomplishment of the 20th Century.

Rallying Public Support

Furthermore, both the USW and the Sierra Club are committed to using our alliance form from which to work with all other unions and individuals who share our values to create a powerful, and strategic, movement for change. We recall the words of one of our country's great labor and environmental champions, late U.S. Senator Paul Wellstone, who we believe in the power of our dreams.

In that same spirit we invite all to join with the USW and the Sierra Club in launching a dramatic new field program to build support for Good Jobs, A Clean Environment, and a Safer World.

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