

October 18, 2007

The Honorable John Dingell  
2328 Rayburn House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

Re: HR 1534

Dear Mr. Dingell,

HR 1534, the "Mercury Export Ban Act of 2007", which bans the export of surplus mercury into global commerce, was reported out of Subcommittee on August 2, 2007. At that time, a bipartisan commitment was made to seek resolution of the outstanding concerns regarding the bill before consideration by the full Committee.

The undersigned organizations have since participated in the ensuing discussions and negotiated in good faith to produce an amendment to HR 1534 to be offered at full Committee which addresses our individual concerns, advances our shared objective of reducing global mercury pollution, and reflects good public policy.

Specifically, the negotiated version of HR 1534 establishes a practical and workable domestic framework for sequestering the elemental mercury prohibited from export under the legislation. To develop this framework, our organizations worked diligently and collectively to reach consensus, each of us agreeing not to raise related mercury matters which may have prevented a successful outcome. Therefore we hope the Committee will acknowledge the compromises made and pass our consensus language without further changes.

In closing, the undersigned organizations support the negotiated version of HR 1534 and urge its passage.

Sincerely,

Natural Resources Defense Council

Environmental Council of States

American Chemistry Council

The Chlorine Institute, Inc.

cc: Members of the Energy and Commerce Committee