

12 January 2010

Dear Chairperson:

I am writing to warn you that carbon trading (also called cap-and-trade) will fail to stop climate change, resulting in a world that is increasingly dangerous and problematic for our children and grandchildren, yours and mine. There are many reasons that carbon trading will fail. The important reasons I've outlined for you in the enclosed essay, "The People vs. Cap-and-Trade," which I've written to coincide with this summit.

I ask that you act now to encourage discussion at the 2nd Annual Carbon Trading Summit to focus on policies that will actually have the effect of reducing carbon emissions, rather than false solutions that only distract from the policies that work. I've discussed some of these effective policies in the enclosed essay, especially addressing a fee-and-dividend (also called "carbon fee"), a flat tax on carbon with the proceeds distributed 100 percent to the public. These funds will allow the public to phase in low carbon technologies and life styles, stimulating the economy, allowing us to move to a clean energy future.

If you want the world to be safe and livable for your children, grandchildren, and many generations to come, I suggest that you act now to support a carbon fee rather than carbon trading.

Please contact me if you have any questions on these issues, or any concerns on the enclosed essay. I am happy to help you understand why you should shift your support from carbon trading to support of a flat carbon fee with 100 percent distribution of funds to the public.

Regards,

Dr. James Hansen
Climate Scientist
Author, "Storms of My Grandchildren"