

# GREENPEACE

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Paul Reagan  
Office of Senator Jim Webb  
248 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4603

Dear Mr. Reagan,

I wanted to make sure you saw that Senator Webb was listed in a recent news story as one of the five Democrats who are considering signing on as cosponsors to Senator Lisa Murkowski's efforts to strip the EPA of the authority to crack down on pollution from oil refineries and coal-fired power plants. (<http://motherjones.com/mojo/2010/01/murkowski-picks-dem-cosponsor-bar-epa-regulation>)

As you know, this campaign by Senator Murkowski to undercut America's clean energy future and handcuff the President's ability to clean up dangerous air pollution, has drawn a firestorm of public criticism because of the deep involvement by two polluter lobbyists and former Bush Administration officials, Jeffrey Holmstead and Roger Martella.

The lobbyists and the Senator have given conflicting accounts of how deeply these polluting industry operatives were involved in writing what's become known as the "Murkowski-Holmstead-Martella Dirty Air Act." Making appearances worse is \$50,000 steered to Senator Murkowski by Mr. Holmstead's clients at the same time that they were pushing this effort.

Senator Webb is known for his intellectual independence and his devotion to the people of Virginia and this country. That's why we presume that Senator Webb's inclusion in the list of possible Democratic allies to Murkowski is a clumsy attempt by Senator Murkowski's communications director, Robert Dillon, who is desperate for a bipartisan fig leaf to shield the Senator from this much-deserved criticism. We trust that given the \$25,700 that Senator Webb has received from the Holmstead-Martella client pool, you do not want to be tarred with Senator Murkowski's brush.

At a time when America needs to focus its ingenuity and resources on clean energy technology and the jobs that come with it, this legislation will give Holmstead's and Martella's clients a free pass to continue to burn polluting fossil fuels inefficiently, without developing new, cleaner, cheaper ways to fuel our economy.

While Murkowski is already facing questions from Alaskans about introducing legislation written by and benefiting her biggest donors, we want to call on you to make it clear where Senator Webb stands: on the side of America's clean energy future and job growth, not with the likes of DC lobbyists like Mr. Holmstead and Mr. Martella.

Respectfully,

Kert Davies

Greenpeace Research Director