

**SIERRA CLUB STATEMENT
ON THE INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1031 TO REAUTHORIZE THE U.S. EXPORT-
IMPORT BANK**

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WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Earlier this week, House Democrats introduced [H.R. 1031](#), a bill to reauthorize the U.S. Export-Import Bank (Ex-Im) that will strengthen the Bank's ability to enforce its environmental policies, take steps for greater scrutiny, and monitor the transparency of potentially risky projects that will cause harm to human health, the climate, and human rights. The bill will also force Ex-Im to put forth a comprehensive clean energy strategy as well as ensure all environmental documents are available on the Bank's website.

H.R. 1031 follows on a recently introduced House Republican bill containing language that contradicts the President's Climate Action plan by allowing coal plants to be built overseas with U.S. government financing. Similarly, Senators Joe Manchin and Mark Kirk have announced that their Senate bill will contain the same bad coal financing language. It's clear that these bills are steps backwards in the fight against polluting, dirty coal plants being built overseas.

In response, John Coequyt, Director of the Sierra Club's International Climate Program, released the following statement:

"House Democrats have taken a commendable first step to ensure that if the Export-Import Bank is reauthorized, it will be held accountable for the projects it finances around the globe, not only from an environmental standpoint but a human rights one as well. We've already seen Ex-Im fund far too many projects that prioritize industry profits and lead to unacceptable human rights abuses.

"But while House Democrats are working to move the Bank into the 21st century, we're seeing Republicans in the House push legislation that puts fossil fuels first, and we expect the same from the forthcoming Senate bill.

"As we continue to see the world move toward an equitable clean energy economy, it's time the Export-Import Bank use American tax dollars to invest in projects that create jobs and lift up communities around the globe."

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About the Sierra Club

The Sierra Club is America's largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization, with more than 2.4 million members and supporters. In addition to helping people from all backgrounds explore nature and our outdoor heritage, the Sierra Club works to promote clean energy, safeguard the health of our communities, protect wildlife, and preserve our remaining wild places through grassroots activism, public education, lobbying, and legal action. For more information, visit www.sierraclub.org.