WUCA
Water Utility Climate Alliance

May 30, 2008

Denver Water

Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California

New York City Department
of Environmental Protection

Portland Water Bureau

San Diego County
Water Authority

Seattle Public Utilities

Southern Nevada
Water Authority

San Francisco Public Utilities
Commission (chair)

The United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the Water Utility Climate Alliance (WUCA), a coalition of eight large water utilities delivering drinking water to 36 million Americans, I commend Senate leaders instrumental in the development of The Climate Security Act (S 3036) and urge Congress to pass legislation that addresses, among other climate change imperatives, significantly reducing emissions of greenhouse gasses.

Climate change is projected to cause significant water-related impacts, including sea level rise, declining snowpack, increased drought, more frequent extreme storm events, changes in timing and volume of flows in waterways, and warming of rivers, streams, lakes and estuaries. As water utilities and stewards of the environment, we take these potential impacts seriously and support your efforts to address this societal challenge in a comprehensive manner.

WUCA believes, as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has noted, that a portfolio of adaptation and mitigation measures can diminish the risks associated with climate change. In addition to significant reductions in greenhouse gasses, our member agencies support measures to strengthen and expand federal support for climate research in order to improve our understanding of how climate change may impact water resources. WUCA particularly supports specific sections in the bill addressing and funding adaptation response related to Coastal Impacts, Impacts on Water Resources, and Research on the Effect of Climate Change on Drinking Water Utilities. These sections recognize the unique and daunting challenges faced by water, wastewater, and stormwater managers in responding and adapting to the effects of climate change.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Ed Harrington
General Manager
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Chair
Water Utility Climate Alliance

On behalf of:

Jeff Kightlinger
General Manager
Metropolitan Water District of
Southern California

Emily Lloyd
Commissioner
New York City Department
of Environmental Protection

Maureen Stapleton
General Manager
San Diego County Water Authority

Patricia Mulroy
General Manager
Southern Nevada Water Authority

Chuck Clarke
Director
Seattle Public Utilities

Chips Barry
General Manager
Denver Water

David G. Shaff
Administrator
Portland Water Bureau