

January 29, 2018

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senate  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
United States Senate  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairwoman Murkowski and Ranking Member Cantwell:

On behalf of the undersigned sportsmen's, outdoor business, and scientific organizations, we write to express our support for the Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act (PLREDA, S. 282). We are pleased to see these bills reintroduced and hope to see their passage in the 115th Congress to ensure that continued public lands renewable energy development runs apace with the conservation and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat.

Hunters and anglers understand the importance of energy development of all kinds on public lands. However, that energy development must be done in a way that thoughtfully balances development with fish and wildlife habitat. PLREDA strikes this important balance between the development of new clean energy infrastructure and the conservation of our natural resources. By identifying priority areas for wind, solar and geothermal development, PLREDA encourages smart siting and efficient permitting of projects in places with high potential for energy and low impact on wildlife and habitat. Planning ahead for development in priority areas offers developers certainty for their project timelines, and saves both time and money.

Importantly, PLREDA ensures communities benefit from renewable energy development by distributing a portion of the revenues generated to states and counties, and a portion to improve access to public land and for conservation efforts. In addition, the revenue sharing model laid out in PLREDA will help permitting agencies advance renewable energy by securing the necessary resources to efficiently manage, review and advance applications for new projects.

We believe this bill is an important step in advancing renewable energy while strengthening communities and conservation efforts for sportsmen and women. We urge your support of the Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

American Fly Fishing Trade Association  
Archery Trade Association  
Backcountry Hunters & Anglers  
Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (B.A.S.S.)  
Fly Fishers International  
Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation  
Izaak Walton League of America  
National Deer Alliance  
National Wildlife Federation  
Outdoor Industry Association  
Pope & Young Club

Snook & Gamefish Foundation  
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership  
The Wildlife Society  
Trout Unlimited