

Save Malaysian Rainforest Wildlife!

No Trans-Pacific Partnership!

Dear Senator _____, Senator _____,

and Representative _____: cc: President Barack Obama

I am concerned that the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a free trade agreement currently being negotiated by the Obama administration with the government of Malaysia and 10 other nations, will exacerbate the destruction of orangutans, Borneo pygmy elephants, Malayan tigers, and other species of wildlife and their habitats.

Industrial scale logging for export and palm oil plantations are ravaging Malaysia's endangered rainforests at the behest of corporations like Cargill, one of the most aggressive supporters of TPP. Endangered species like the orangutan face extinction as their habitat disappears. Already under pressure from poaching, Malayan tigers also face the loss of habitat and death by shooting when starving tigers enter villages after their habitats are destroyed. Borneo pygmy elephants are also being killed in conflicts with humans as they are displaced from their habitat and are being killed with rat poison to prevent them from eating palm fruit on plantation lands that were once their rainforest homes.

Malaysia is pushing for TPP to require member nations to reduce or eliminate import tariffs on Malaysian palm oil. This will drive down the market price of palm oil giving corporations a greater incentive to use palm oil in the place of other oils in food s and biodiesel fuels.

TPP also contains investor rights provisions that give foreign corporations the right to sue governments in international tribunals for enforcing their environmental laws. Corporations domiciled in Malaysia would thus be able to sue any TPP country that banned Malaysian wood or palm oil imports, claiming that the ban constitutes a non-tariff barrier to trade that interferes with their potential future profits.

Similarly, TPP's restrictions on state and federal procurement rules will undermine efforts to enact policies requiring sustainable sourcing restrictions on all government purchases of palm oil or of products containing palm oil. This will not only undermine governments' ability to use their purchasing power to pressure palm oil producers to commit to sustainable production, but will also prevent government from using its purchaser influence to push food producers to eliminate palm oil from their products. TPP's procurement rules can also be used to attack "good wood" bills – legislation enacted to require governments to only purchase sustainably sourced wood products.

President Obama intends to call on Congress to grant him Fast Track Authority for TPP – which will prevent Congress from strengthening TPP's environmental language if TPP is ultimately sent to Congress for a vote. I urge you to vote against Fast Track Authority for TPP and to vote against TPP itself if it reaches the floor of Congress.

Name _____ Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Contact me: w/ more info (circle one) YES NO about volunteering (circle one) YES NO

Mail completed letter to GJAE, 219 Carlton Terrace, Teaneck, NJ 07666.

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