October 22, 2018

President Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Donald J. Trump:

I am writing on behalf of the Society for the Study of Social problems (SSSP) to urge you to join us in supporting the Paris Agreement and other measures, such as the Clean Energy Just Transition Act and the “100 by 50” Act, designed to promote and provide a rapid and managed just transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy. The SSSP is one of the oldest and most respected social justice social science organizations in the United States, with members in virtually every state and many countries. This is an extremely important issue for the Society, especially because of the social consequences for the planet if the problem is not addressed quickly and vigorously.

Attached is a resolution approved by the membership of the SSSP at its most recent Annual Meeting in Philadelphia this past August. The resolution states, in part, “global climate change is due to human activities, primarily the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation that have caused a dramatic increase in the levels of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere ...” While there is ample and incontrovertible evidence for the problem, the good news is that if human beings created the problem, human beings can fix it. However, as indicated in a new report issued by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, or IPCC, the leading United Nations consortium of researchers studying the speed and scope of human-caused temperature rise, the need to move more quickly has never been greater. The report, authored by researchers and editors from forty countries, citing more than 6,000 scientific references, calls for aggressive steps to reduce dramatically our reliance on fossil fuels. In their place, the SSSP urges “moving rapidly toward a renewable energy economy [that] can—with the right policies in place—be the source of large numbers of new, well-paying jobs that will reinvigorate local economies.”

Please indicate receipt of this letter and resolution and share with us either your support or disagreement with our position, and allow us the opportunity to respond if it is the latter.

Sincerely,

Héctor L. Delgado, Ph.D.
Executive Officer

Enclosure