



May 29, 2013

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Co-Director, Policy Program & Director,  
Business for Innovative Climate & Energy Policy (BICEP)  
Ceres  
99 Chauncy Street, 6th Fl.  
Boston, MA 02111

**Re: Support of the Climate Declaration**

Dear BICEP:

We are writing to express our support for the Climate Declaration launched last week by BICEP and your member companies. **One hundred and fifteen (115) ski resorts across twenty-four states support the Declaration** and stand behind your strong message to policy makers to pass meaningful energy and climate legislation now. Ski areas across the country are concerned about the issue of climate change and its impacts on rising sea levels, wildlife habitat, the health of our forests, and truly our way of life. It is obvious that the success of ski business operations depends greatly on climate. Resorts have made tremendous efforts to raise awareness of the issue of climate change with our guests and with policy makers over the past decade. We have also made great strides in our operations to reduce carbon emissions. We welcome legislative and regulatory initiatives that will reduce carbon emissions, incentivize renewable energy development and help improve our resiliency in the future.

Two years ago, the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) initiated the “**Climate Challenge**,” a voluntary program dedicated to helping participating ski areas reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and reap other benefits in their operations, such as reducing costs of energy use. Resorts who take the Challenge are required to complete a climate inventory on their resort operations, set a target for greenhouse gas reduction, and implement a new program or project annually to meet the reduction goal. Examples of some of the actions taken so far include lighting retrofits, development of on-site renewable energy including solar and wind and investment in high efficiency snowmaking equipment. Today, we have **20 resorts** that have taken the Challenge, including Alta Ski Area (UT), Arapahoe Basin (CO), Beaver Valley Ski Club (ON), Boreal Mountain (CA), Canyons Resort (UT), Copper Mountain (CO), Giants Ridge (MN), Gorgoza Park (UT), Grand Targhee (WY), Jackson Hole Mountain Resort (WY), Jiminy Peak (MA), Killington Resort (VT), Las Vegas Ski & Snowboard Resort (NV), Mt. Bachelor (OR), Mt. Hood Meadows (OR), Park City Mountain Resort (UT), Pico Mountain Resort (VT), Soda Springs (CA), Sugarbush (VT), and Telluride Ski & Golf Resort (CO).

Apart from the Climate Challenge, ski areas are developing renewable energy on site through the application of wind, solar, geothermal and micro-hydro technology. Ski areas are applying energy-efficient green building techniques, retrofitting existing facilities to save energy, replacing inefficient compressors in snowmaking operations, using alternative fuels in resort vehicle fleets, implementing anti-idling policies and providing or promoting car pooling or mass transit use by guests and employees. Ski areas are also supporting renewable energy by purchasing Renewable Energy Credits (RECs). The ski industry represents a relatively small source of greenhouse gas emissions, however, we are doing our part to set the example and unify all businesses behind the common goal of addressing the long term issue of climate change.

NSAA recently submitted testimony to the Bicameral Task Force on Climate Change to encourage action in Washington on the issue of climate change. Over the past decade, ski areas have supported a variety of energy and climate proposals in Congress, as well as proposed climate policies from federal agencies. We have advocated support for cap and trade, extending the Investment Tax Credit and the Production Tax Credit, adopting renewable portfolio standards (RPS) and cleaner fuels and cleaner vehicle emissions requirements, and EPA's establishment of protective carbon emission standards for new power plants.

All of the ski areas listed below applaud your action in launching the Declaration and are pleased to support it. If there is any additional information we can provide from the ski industry, our contact person is Geraldine Link ((720) 963-4205 or [glink@nsaa.org](mailto:glink@nsaa.org)) at NSAA.

Best Regards,

**ALASKA**

Alyeska Resort

**CALIFORNIA**

Alpine Meadows

Bear Valley

Boreal Mountain Resort

Dodge Ridge

Granlibakken Ski Area

Homewood Mountain Resort

Kirkwood Mountain Resort

Mammoth

Mountain High

Mt. Shasta Ski Park

Northstar California

Royal Gorge

Sierra-at-Tahoe

Soda Springs Ski Area

Squaw Valley

Sugar Bowl

**COLORADO**

Arapahoe Basin

Aspen Highlands

Aspen Mountain

Beaver Creek

Breckenridge

Buttermilk

Copper

Crested Butte Mountain Resort

Durango Mountain Resort

Echo Mountain

Keystone

Monarch

Powderhorn

Silverton

Snowmass

Sol Vista at Granby Ranch

Steamboat Ski & Resort

Telluride Ski & Golf Resort

Vail Mountain

Winter Park

**IDAHO**

Lookout Pass

Schweitzer Mountain Resort

Tamarack Resort

**ILLINOIS**

Chestnut Mountain Resort

**INDIANA**

Perfect North Slopes

**MAINE**

Camden Snow Bowl

Mt. Abram

Shawnee Peak Ski Area

**MASSACHUSETTS**

Catamount Ski Area

Jiminy Peak

Ski Butternut

Wachusett Mountain Ski Area

**MICHIGAN**

Crystal Mountain

**MINNESOTA**

Lutsen Mountains

Spirit Mountain

Welch Village

**MONTANA**

Bridger Bowl

Moonlight Basin

**NEVADA**

Heavenly Mountain Resort

Las Vegas Ski & Snowboard Resort

Mt. Rose

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Attitash

Cranmore Mountain Resort

Gunstock Mountain Resort

Loon Mountain

Mount Sunapee

Ragged Mountain Resort

Waterville Valley

**NEW MEXICO**

Pajarito Mountain Ski Area

Taos Ski Valley

**NEW YORK**

Bristol Mountain

Gore Mountain

Greek Peak Mountain Resort

Holiday Valley Resort

Holimont Ski Area

Hunter Mountain

Mt. Peter Ski Area

Whiteface

Windham Mountain

**OREGON**

Anthony Lakes

Cooper Spur Mountain Resort

Mt. Ashland Ski Area

Mt. Bachelor

Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Resort

Timberline Lodge & Ski Area

**PENNSYLVANIA**

Camelback Mountain Resort  
Elk Mountain  
Liberty Mountain Resort  
Roundtop Mountain Resort  
Whitetail Resort

**UTAH**

Alta Ski Area  
Canyons Resort  
Deer Crest Private Trails  
Deer Valley  
Park City Mountain Resort

**VERMONT**

Bromley  
Burke Mountain  
Killington  
Okemo Mountain Resort  
Middlebury College Snow Bowl  
Pico Mountain  
Smugglers' Notch Resort  
Stowe  
Stratton  
Sugarbush

**VIRGINIA**

The Homestead Ski Area  
Massanutten Ski Resort  
Wintergreen Resort

**WEST VIRGINIA**

Snowshoe

**WASHINGTON**

49 Degrees North Mountain Resort  
Crystal Mountain  
Mission Ridge  
Stevens Pass  
Summit-at-Snoqualmie

**WISCONSIN**

Cascade Mountain  
Granite Peak at Rib Mountain State Park

**WYOMING**

Grand Targhee Resort  
Jackson Hole Mountain Resort