

Dear

I am writing to you because I am very concerned about the future of rainforests in Indonesia and Malaysia. I am concerned about the effects of non-sustainable palm oil production on orangutans, wildlife and indigenous people in Indonesia and Malaysia. The United States is one of the world's top consumers of palm oil. At the rate that the rainforest is being cut down, orangutans and other species are in real danger of extinction within the coming decade. I believe it is our responsibility to help.

One reason palm oil production is increasing, and demand is becoming even more unsustainable, is due to the development of bio-fuel. Non-sustainable palm oil production is devastating to forest habitat and wildlife in Indonesia and Malaysia, but there are additional damaging effects to the planet. Deforestation and the burning of forests and peatlands for palm oil production increases the release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere and contributes to global warming. Bio-fuel produced from palm oil is not a viable "green" solution to the energy crisis.

I have two requests:

- 1) Please support continued funding of USAID grant agreements that protect orangutans and rainforests in Indonesia.
- 2) Please do NOT support the development of palm oil for bio-fuel production.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,