



Signatories sent the following letter to the Federal Reserve. They sent similar letters to the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the Federal Insurance Office, the Federal Housing Finance Agency, the Financial Stability Oversight Council, and various state insurance regulators. Additional letters are available by request.

July 21, 2020

Honorable Jerome H. "Jay" Powell,
Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System
20th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20551

Dear Chairman Powell,

It is more clear than ever that the climate crisis poses a systemic threat to financial markets and the real economy, with significant disruptive consequences on asset valuations and our nation's economic stability. This is in addition to the lives and livelihoods of tens of millions of people across the country. These threats have the potential to compound in ways we don't yet understand, with disastrous impacts the likes of which we haven't seen before.

You lead a critically important agency that has a mandate to protect US market stability and global competitiveness. This carries with it a responsibility to act on the climate crisis right now, and guide our transition to a net zero future.

Such actions are particularly critical now, as our financial markets are especially vulnerable in the face of the economic shocks from the COVID-19 pandemic. Your leadership in taking unprecedented and vital steps to support communities, companies and financial markets in the face of the economic fallout is greatly appreciated. Yet, decisions that are being made right now in order to revitalize the economy could have impacts on climate change.

We call on you to immediately consider whether decisions being made right now could inadvertently exacerbate the climate crisis. Additionally, we ask you to implement a broader range of actions to explicitly integrate climate change across your mandates. Such actions are needed to protect the economy from any further disruptive shocks.

The newly released Ceres report, "[Addressing climate as a systemic risk: A call to action for U.S. financial regulators](#)" outlines a series of action steps for financial regulators to consider. The recommendations most relevant to your agency are on pp. 18 – 25. We encourage you to consider these recommendations.

Headquarters: 99 Chauncy Street, 6th Floor · Boston, MA 02111 · 617-247-0700

San Francisco Office: 369 Pine Street, Suite 620 · San Francisco, CA 94104 · 617-247-0700

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We, the undersigned groups stand ready to engage with you and support you in driving forward the needed actions. Thank you for your leadership, it is truly appreciated.

Nonprofits

Ceres
Business Forward Foundation
Skoll Foundation
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
Business Forward Foundation
Center for American Progress
Climate Disclosure Standards Board
Climate Resolve
Impact Capital Managers
Next System Project
Northeast Clean Energy Council
Cleantech Open
Rocky Mountain Institute
Sierra Club
NRDC
The University for Sustainability
Universidade de Brasília

Investors

Arabesque S-Ray
Jonathan Rose Companies
Prentiss Smith & Company
Wespath Benefits and Investments
Parnassus Investments
As You Sow
Boston Common Asset Management
Boston Trust Walden
Breckinridge Capital Advisors
California State Controller's Office
CalSTRS
Capricorn Investment Group
Clean Energy Ventures
Cornerstone Capital Group
Dana Investment Advisors

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FullCycle Climate Partners
Hannon Armstrong
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Maryland State Treasurer
NEI Investments
New York State Comptroller
New York City Office of the Comptroller
Office of the Illinois State Treasurer
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Redwood Grove Capital
Seventh Generation Interfaith Inc
Sonen Capital
Spherical Solutions
Stance Capital, LLC
The Sustainability Group of Loring, Wolcott & Coolidge
Trillium Asset Management
Tyson Associates
Unitarian Universalist Association
Seattle City Employees' Retirement System

Businesses

3Degrees Group, Inc.
Ethical Markets Media Certified B. Corporation
FutureProof Technologies
Malachite

Individuals (Affiliations listed for identification purposes only)

Alicia Seiger - Ceres, Board of Directors; Managing Director, Stanford Precourt Energy Institute Sustainable Finance Initiative
Bob Inglis - Executive Director, republicEn.org; former U.S. Representative (R-South Carolina, 1993-1999 and 2005-2011)
Brooksley Born - former Chairperson, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission; former Commissioner, U.S. Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission
Carlos Curbelo - former U.S. Representative (R-Florida, 2015 to 2019)
Chester G. Atkins - former U.S. Representative (D-Massachusetts, 1985 – 1993)



Dave Jones - California Insurance Commissioner, Emeritus; Director, Climate Risk Initiative, UC Berkeley School of Law, Center for Law, Energy & Environment

Ken Pucker - Lecturer, Boston University Questrom School of Business

Lucinda Brickler - former official, Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Paul G. Kirk Jr. - former U.S. Senator (D-Massachusetts, 2009-2010)

Phil Angelides - former Chairman, Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission (2009-2011)

William D. Delahunt - former U.S. Representative (D-Massachusetts, 1997-2011)