



Department  
of Energy &  
Climate Change

The Rt Hon George Howarth MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP  
Secretary of State

Department of Energy & Climate Change  
3 Whitehall Place  
London  
SW1A 2AW

[www.gov.uk/decc](http://www.gov.uk/decc)

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24<sup>h</sup> September 2015

Dear George,

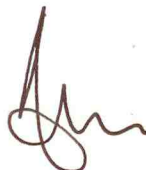
Thank you for your letter dated 2 September, enclosing correspondence from your constituent, \_\_\_\_\_ about Government action on climate change and the global climate talks in Paris this December.

The Government is pushing for a strong global climate deal in 2015 – one that keeps the goal of limiting global warming to two-degrees firmly in reach and which sends a strong signal to business and investors. A global deal is the only way we can deliver the scale of action required. A global deal is also strongly in the UK's interests. It provides the only credible means to leverage more from others without taking extra effort ourselves and further drive down the costs of climate action. As a leader in green technology and innovation, our economy and competitiveness arguably benefit more from a global deal than they would without one.

The Government is driving for a deal that sets ambitious emission reduction targets by all parties – not just developed countries – to shift us away from the business as usual pathway towards the two degrees trajectory. We also want an agreement that promotes transparency and accountability of our commitments. So we will be pushing for a regular assessment of ambition through five-yearly cycles of review to progressively move us towards securing the 2 degrees goal and clear internationally legally binding rules that all countries must abide by, to ensure transparency and accountability and increase certainty that Governments will deliver their promises and provide confidence to businesses. We will be driving for a deal to send a long term signal of commitment to the low carbon transition to provide businesses with certainty to unleash the markets and help deliver climate action at the lowest cost. We will also be using our climate finance commitments and track record of effective climate finance projects to gain support from developing countries to push all parties to agree to an ambitious deal and to help the most vulnerable countries to take action to reduce emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

We have made progress to date and the prospects for a deal are there, but there is still a long way to go. The UK is encouraging all major economies to come forward with ambitious mitigation commitments and set long term goals to set direction and agree to track progress towards these. We are building strong alliances with progressive countries *through negotiations and through our climate finance commitments, and bilateral* relationships, particularly with major emitters, through our embassies and bilateral visits. We are also working closely with the private sector to get the market to work on climate change – through ensuring a deal enables a more level playing field to boost our competitiveness, capitalise on the commercial opportunities of moving to a low carbon economy and identify and avoid the risk to investments from the impact of climate change. We are working closely with all stakeholders to drive support for the UK negotiating objectives and to amplify these messages ahead of the negotiations in Paris in December.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Amber Rudd', written in a cursive style.

**AMBER RUDD**