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Please DO NOT send a photocopy of this letter to your MP, handwrite instead

Dear XX MP

Re: Fourth Carbon Budget

I am writing, as one of your constituents, to ask you if you will in turn please write to the Prime Minister to ask for assurances that the UK Government will honour its commitment to the emissions reductions laid out in the Fourth Carbon Budget.

Earlier this year the Government accepted the recommendations of the independent Committee on Climate Change and set ambitious targets for UK greenhouse gas emission reductions as part of the Fourth Carbon Budget.

Today the UK has the world's most ambitious legislated emissions reductions targets. This is good news for the world's poorest people who are feeling the effects of climate change already. Achieving these targets will also reduce the UK's exposure to high fossil fuel prices, allow the UK to influence global climate negotiations from a position of strength. It will also encourage investment in green technology because business will know where it stands. In this, the UK leads the world and I congratulate the Government for this.

As you can imagine, it was with alarm that I heard George Osborne apparently oppose this leadership during his Conservative Party Conference speech on Monday 3 October. George Osborne's statement that "we are not going to save the planet by putting our companies out of business", and stating that the government would not cut emissions faster than other EU countries, casts serious doubt over the extent of the Government's commitment to the Fourth Carbon Budget, and the commitment to becoming the 'greenest Government ever'.

The science and economics of climate change show that we cannot afford to choose between the economy and protecting the environment: we must do both. Action is urgently needed to help the world's poorest people who are being hit hardest by climate change. Investing in low carbon transition also presents the UK with great opportunities to lead the world in developing a green economy. Failing to tackle environmental challenges will adversely affect many economies, including our own.

Many thanks for your help with this, and do let me know if you hear back from the Prime Minister.

Yours sincerely,