

An Open Letter to the American People:

# Energy is not a political issue.

# It's an issue of survival.

That there is a serious energy problem which is getting worse and must be met by a comprehensive national energy policy is past questioning. And we of the American business community commend President Carter for boldly facing up to that fact and for his efforts to arrive at a solution.

While many of us in business—along with other segments of the nation—have differences of opinion as to the methods proposed to meet the nation's long-term needs, we agree that we *must* do something, and soon.

In order to arrive at a policy that is fair to everyone, all segments of our society—individuals, corporations, environmentalists and government alike—must be ready to sacrifice and develop new conservation methods in business, government and at home.

We, as corporations, pledge to continue reducing our energy consumption in every way possible and urge our employees and every individual citizen to do the same.

We also believe that encouragement should be provided to the private sector to explore and develop existing forms of energy and to conduct research into new and additional sources of energy of all kinds. Governmental restrictions now hindering such efforts also should be reexamined.

And finally, we in the business community pledge to cooperate and work with the Administration and the Congress to reach the goal of a national energy policy that is fair to all.

Time is running out!

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Boston Latin School Youth Climate Action Network  
**BLS Youth CAN**  
The Oldest School.  
The Newest Thinking: Educating for Sustainability

### **Open Letter to Leaders of American Industry**

We recently found a copy of your September 2, 1977 open letter to the American people that appeared as a full-page ad in the Boston Evening Globe. 33 years ago you pledged to reduce your energy consumption and recommended that the government provide incentives for the private sector to conduct research into new sources of energy. You pledged to work with the Administration and Congress to reach the goal of a national energy policy that would be "fair to all". You urged the American people to conserve. You said it was "an issue of survival." You said time was "running out."

What happened? We find it hard to believe that adults in positions of power have been unable for all this time to bring about an improved energy policy in the United States. We call on each of the early signatories who clearly understood the urgency of this issue to renew their commitment. We call on all companies who care about the future of life on this planet to join us in our appeal to Congress and President Obama asking for swift and decisive action towards a new, more sustainable energy policy. We are asking the Administration to try again. We are asking corporate America to lobby for and demand a bipartisan effort to get it done. Further excuses and continued inaction are unacceptable. Time has run out.

Sincerely,  
The Students of the Boston Latin School Youth Climate Action Network  
[www.blsyouthcan.org](http://www.blsyouthcan.org)