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Dr. Caroline Lucas  
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Ref:ED/LucasC001

Dear Dr Lucas,

I am writing in response to your letter dated 7 March 2007, regarding the Early Day Motion 736 concerning the Climate Change Bill.

Due to my position as Parliamentary Private Secretary to Ian Pearson MP, under Parliamentary protocol I am unable to sign any Early Day Motions. However, as you are aware, I am particularly concerned about climate change, and continue to lobby the Government on the importance of tackling this issue.

During Prime Minister's Question Time on 20 February, I was able to raise this issue directly with Gordon Brown, stressing the importance of setting challenging targets in the Climate Change Bill. The Prime Minister agreed that we need to be far more radical in the targets that we set for cutting carbon emissions, and announced that the Government will ask the new committee on climate change to look at a new target of 80%.

I have continued my work lobbying Parliament on this issue, and on 3 March 2008 I hosted the Oxfam parliamentary exhibition, "Sisters on the Planet," to highlight the impact climate change is having on women around the world.

I hope this information expresses my commitment to the fight against climate change, and I can assure you that I will continue to lobby the Government on this issue in my role as Member of Parliament for Hove and Portslade.

Yours sincerely,

Celia Barlow  
Labour MP for Hove and Portslade