

DATE

ADDRESS

Dear TITLE & NAME,

I am writing to you because I am very concerned about the future of rainforests in Southeast Asia, including Indonesia and Malaysia. I am concerned about the effects of non-sustainable palm oil production on indigenous people as well as Asian elephants, orangutans, tigers, other wildlife. At the rate that the rainforest is being cut down, many of these species are at a very high risk of becoming extinct and people are facing threats to their livelihood as well. Since the United States is one of the world's top consumers of palm oil, I believe it is our responsibility to help.

One reason palm oil production is increasing and demand is becoming unsustainable is due to the development of bio-fuel. Deforestation increases carbon dioxide in the atmosphere which in turn, contributes to global warming. So bio-fuel produced from unsustainably harvested palm oil is not a viable "green" solution to the energy crisis.

I have two requests:

1. Please support continued funding of USAID grant agreements that protect elephants and rainforests in Indonesia.
2. Please do NOT support the use of non-sustainable palm oil as bio-fuel.

For more information on the Palm Oil crisis and its impact on wildlife, visit

- <http://www.cmzoo.org/conservation/palmoilCrisis/> or
- [http://www.elephanttag.org/palmoil\\_awareness.html](http://www.elephanttag.org/palmoil_awareness.html)

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,