



## Stop Climate Chaos Scotland

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Rt Hon Nicola Sturgeon MSP  
St Andrew's House  
Regent Road  
Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

27<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Dear First Minister,

Firstly, many congratulations on your recent appointment, and taking the unprecedented step as Scotland's first female First Minister. We wish you all the best in this role.

Stop Climate Chaos Scotland is the biggest civil society coalition in Scotland, with 60 organisations campaigning together on climate change. Our members include environment, faith and international development organisations, trade and student unions and community groups.

Next year, the world's leaders will meet in Paris to secure a new global agreement to tackle climate change. As you know, overall, Scotland has a good story to tell of political commitment to action on climate change. The previous First Minister has been a vocal advocate for bold climate action. Now, more than ever, it is vital that Scotland's commitment to tackling climate change continues under your leadership.

There is much we can be proud of as a nation. This includes the Scottish Climate Change Act, which you helped to vote through unanimously in 2009; the Scottish Government's support for hugely increased renewable energy generation; and the Climate Justice Fund, which recognises Scotland's wider moral responsibility. These achievements exemplify the leadership that tackling climate change requires.

Stop Climate Chaos Scotland has done much, often in partnership with the Scottish Government, to promote Scotland's climate example overseas, and this will intensify in the run-up to the Paris talks. We hope this will inspire similar, much-needed ambition from other countries.

However there is more that Scotland can and must do. Emissions targets, set under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, have been missed for three consecutive years, making it harder for Scotland to meet future reduction targets. Only if Scotland's ambitious emissions targets are met can we present Scotland's climate action story to the world with conviction and credibility.

It is those who have done least to cause climate change, both at home and abroad, who are predicted to most acutely suffer from its impacts. Many of the interventions that can significantly reduce Scotland's emissions can also enhance the people of Scotland's health, happiness and job opportunities, delivering wins for the environment and social justice.

We look forward to working with you in fulfilling Scotland's potential as a true climate action leader.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Ballantine  
Chair of Stop Climate Chaos Scotland