

## Who Doesn't Want Strong and Clean Energy Laws

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This probably won't surprise you. I received the following email message today, " Hello once again, I wanted to pass onto you and your readers the following press release, <http://smnr.us/35mpgby2020>, that highlights the fact that it is primarily the auto industry PACs and lobbies that are torpedoing an aggressive Energy Bill and not the members of the auto industry -- the auto workers and dealers. This campaign is called the "The Auto Lobby Doesn't Speak For Us" campaign and is based over at <http://www.35mpgby2020.com>. Again, please let your readers know about the Energy Bill 2007 petition in support of this aggressive bill, <http://www.energybill2007.org>.

Of course it is the auto lobby that doesn't want the Clean Energy legislation. But the press release mentioned above shows who is breaking away from the auto lobby's position. Following is a segment of that article: Portland ME &ndash; Breaking ranks with their own automobile industry, Adam Lee, president of Lee Auto Malls in Maine, Gary Muenzhuber, representing Autoworkers of Minnesota, Inc, Chicago-based Chuck Frank, owner of one of the nation's largest Chevy dealerships and Kentucky-based Karen Bowen, a former Ford executive, are part of an industry based sign-on campaign to urge passage of a 35 mile-per-gallon (mpg) fuel economy standard by 2020. The Auto Lobby Doesn't Speak For Us website ([www.35mpgby2020.com](http://www.35mpgby2020.com)) goes live today to enlist other maverick industry workers who believe the domestic auto makers not only can but must build more fuel-efficient cars if the industry is to survive. "American automakers believe that when it comes to increasing fuel economy, raising the standards to 35 mpg by 2020 just can't be done. But, as members of the American auto industry, we have designed, built and sold automobiles in this country for decades, and we know it can!" Third generation autodealer, Adam Lee, who is leading this effort and owns eleven dealerships, makes a personal plea on the website to others whose livelihoods are dependent upon the domestic auto manufacturers. In his three-minute video clip, he says: "My family has been selling American made cars since 1936. My livelihood and the livelihood of over 350 employees who work for us depend upon the success of the automobile industry. Today that strength is severely compromised by the lack of fuel-efficient cars and trucks customers want to buy. The domestic automakers need higher standards for their and my survival. Without a 35 mile-per-gallon mandate, I'm afraid, global warming and our dependence on foreign oil will continue to get much worse in the long run. And, in the short run, I'm afraid I'll be stuck with a lot full of cars that no one wants to buy or even worse: This country will no longer have an American auto industry. So please join me, sign our letter, write your legislators, and speak up and tell them that the powerful automobile lobby does not speak for you or our industry." The homespun The Auto Lobby Doesn't Speak For Us campaign includes local and state speaking engagements, blogging to recruit for the sign-on letter to House and Senate leadership, a trip to the nation's capitol to talk with legislators and a few inside-the-beltwide newspaper ads. So as we have been asked, " Again, please let your readers know about the Energy Bill 2007 petition in support of this aggressive bill, <http://www.energybill2007.org>." If you are "thinking Green" it's hard not to support this bill. We are!