

## Talking Points for Step It Up Day of Action

### 1. Our banks need to step it up by getting tough on climate and saying NO to new coal.

- Every dollar invested in dirty, dangerous coal is a dollar that could be invested in clean energy and a clean future.
- Leading banks like Merrill Lynch (fill in your target) need to stop funding dirty, dangerous coal expansion and start funding a clean, healthy future.
- Banks have the power to stop the 150 dirty coal plants currently on the drawing board simply by withholding the \$125 billion needed to build them.

### 2. The environmental and human cost of coal is devastating.

- Coal power is inefficient, unsustainable, and environmentally destructive from the point of extraction to the point of production.
- Many of the proposed new plants intend to use pulverized coal, which is one of the dirtiest and most greenhouse-gas intensive energy options.
- The world has added 1 billion additional tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from new coal power plants in the last five years.
- 40 percent of fossil fuel greenhouse gas emissions globally are from burning coal.
  - Coal is the largest single source of GHG emissions.
- Since 1990, the largest increase in emissions is from increased burning of coal.
- Clean coal is a myth. Just ask someone who has to live with a power plant in their backyard or a coal silo in their playground. So-called “clean” coal plants emit huge amounts of toxic mercury and other harmful pollutants.

### 3. Banks need to invest in a clean, sustainable future

- In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, banks should be shifting their resources away from dangerous energy sources such as coal and nuclear and focusing on clean sources like wind and solar.
- At a time when our banks need to be climate leaders, Citi, JPMorgan Chase, Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, Merrill Lynch, Credit Suisse and Lehman Brothers are eager funders of this dirty coal expansion
- To help minimize and avoid climate risks, the financial industry needs to get tough on climate change and stop funding coal and other dirty energy sources.
- Banks need to adopt strict new climate standards consistent with the scientific recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).
- Banks must help their clients move quickly to flourish in a carbon-constrained economy.