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Daniel F. Becker, Director, Safe Climate Campaign:

Scientists warn that delay in cutting global warming pollution is dangerous.

Carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas, does its heat trapping damage for over 100 years and accumulates in the atmosphere. So the G-8's imitation of Nero will bring our leaders no applause from our children and grandchildren.

But it is important to recognize a key reason that other nations were unwilling to commit to emissions reductions. They were casting a vote of no confidence in America's willingness to act. The House climate and energy bill was severely weakened before passage. One amendment even removed the Clean Air Act authority to cut power plant carbon pollution. And the 60th Senate vote will surely try to inflict further damage.