



For Immediate Release  
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**Press Release**

**CONGRESSWOMAN JOHNSON'S STATEMENT ON  
REP. JOE BARTON'S ASSERTION THAT ONLY  
THE RADICAL EXTREME WANTS CLEAN AIR FOR DALLAS**

**Washington, DC** - Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson is challenging Rep. Joe Barton to defend his track record on the environment and the Clean Air Act before a live audience in the smog-prone areas of Dallas and Fort Worth. Last Friday, Congresswoman Johnson dispatched a letter to Rep. Barton asking him to exclude the Dallas-Fort Worth area from his legislation which would delay compliance with the mandates of the Clean Air Act.

The Representative from Ellis County rebuffed this and called the recent vote defeating Rep. Johnson's efforts to remove his language from the Energy Bill a victory "over radical extremism in environmental policy." Rep. Barton responded to Congresswoman Johnson's letter requesting the exclusion of Dallas-Fort Worth by releasing a news release to the media system.

Congresswoman Johnson released the following statement: "It is never my intention to attack another member of the delegation from Texas. Congressman Joe Barton and I have had a cordial working relationship. On this issue, however, we will agree to disagree. Congressman Barton's attempt to portray the desire of Metroplex residents to breath cleaner air by 2005 instead of 2012 (which would be the new deadline under his rider to the Energy Bill) as 'radical extremism' shows just how out of touch he is with North Texans who suffer the affects of dirty, unhealthy air.

"The central issue is this: the health of the people of the Dallas-Fort Worth area. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, 127 million Americans breathe air that violates federal standards for smog and soot pollution. EPA's own consultants found that each year almost 370 residents of the Dallas-Fort Worth area die just because of the