



October 28, 2024

Ms. Lisa Jacobson
President
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
805 15th Street, NW Suite 710
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Jacobson:

As a leader of a preeminent environmental non-governmental organization, you have a responsibility to protect your group's reputation and that of the international movement, of which it is an important part, from needless and material harm. Unfortunately, if environmentalists like you take part in the 29th United Nations Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP29) currently scheduled to take place in Baku, Azerbaijan between November 11-22, you will be risking grave and permanent reputational damage.

Roughly a year ago, the proposed host nation for COP29 completed ten months of blockading and starving 120,000 people of the Republic of Artsakh (also known as Nagorno-Karabakh) by forcing them to flee that enclave. Incredibly, within months, the United Nations rewarded the regime that perpetrated this monstrous crime against humanity by allowing it to host the next COP event.

The practical effect of such a decision has been to *greenwash genocide*. The UN has effectively legitimated the criminal Azeri regime and implicated everyone who attends its COP in doing so, as well.

Worse yet, in the wake of the rape of Artsakh, the government of Azerbaijan and its enabler, the Turkish regime of Recep Tayyip Erdogan, have made clear their determination next to invade the Republic of Armenia. Such threats include abominable promises to "finish" the genocide that killed some 2 million Armenian Christians in World War I.

In other words, anyone attending COP29 in Baku will not only be guilty of greenwashing the previous genocide inflicted on the people of Artsakh. They will be complicit in *greenlighting* the next and even more deadly genocide expected to be unleashed after the delegates head home.

As you know, there are other compelling reasons for the environmental movement to shun Azerbaijan, including its massive production of fossil fuels and record of egregious pollution. But turning a blind eye to the Azeri's desecration of ancient, holy Christian sites in Nagorno-Karabakh in the name of creating a "green zone" there would constitute not just another example of unconscionable hypocrisy but be tantamount to effectively endorsing the persecution of Christians.

Our Coalition to Boycott Baku is determined to prevent further impending crimes against humanity. Will you stand with us and refuse to attend COP29 unless it is moved elsewhere – or forever be known as one of genocide's green enablers?

Sincerely,

The Coalition to Boycott Baku

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The Coalition to Boycott Baku is an informal group of like-minded individuals and organizations committed to holding Azerbaijan accountable for its past crimes against humanity and determined to peacefully prevent it from committing further atrocities.