



December 7, 2012

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We would like to take this opportunity to applaud you for your vision and leadership in support of expanding the use of renewable energy in the United States. As producers of firm and flexible dispatchable renewable electricity, our industries are committed to making a more meaningful contribution to the nation's renewable energy portfolio.

We are writing to express our support for a policy change adopted in the "Family Business and Tax Cut Certainty Act of 2012," the so-called "extenders" legislation reported by the Senate Finance Committee on August 2, 2012, that we believe will allow our industries to significantly increase the number of clean renewable electric power facilities in the U.S. As you know, the Finance Committee modified the traditional "placed-in-service" requirement for the section 45 production tax credit (PTC) to a "commencement of construction" rule; that is, renewable electricity facilities that begin construction as of December 31, 2013 will have the certainty of knowing that such facilities will qualify for the PTC when they are placed in service.

The Finance Committee recognized that many renewable power projects are unable to move forward because developers and investors are concerned that those projects cannot be completed before the renewable electricity production credit expires. This is particularly true in the case of biomass, hydropower, geothermal and waste-to-energy facilities, which have longer development, permitting and construction timelines than do wind energy facilities. Despite the fact that our technologies have been eligible for the PTC for a number of years, fewer of our industries' projects have been built because of the short extensions that are typically provided to the PTC's "placed-in-service" requirement. A rule that will allow renewable projects to go forward based on when construction begins is a major policy improvement that will allow many more clean energy projects to move forward during the statutory duration of the Section 45 Production Tax Credit.

We strongly support this policy change and encourage you to make this modification of the Production Tax Credit a priority for inclusion in any extenders legislation passed by Congress.

Thank you again for your commitment to clean energy and diversifying our nation's energy portfolio. If you or your staff have any questions with regard to this issue, our trade associations stand ready to serve as a resource.

Sincerely,



Karl Gawell



Robert Cleaves



Linda Church Ciocci



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cc: Heather R. Zichal, Deputy Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change

cc: Rob Nabors, Assistant to the President and Director of Legislative Affairs