

United States Senate

February 22, 2012

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
United States Capitol
S-221
Washington, D.C.

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
United States Capitol
S-230
Washington, D.C.

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Minority Leader McConnell:

Due to our country's diverse energy needs, we write to urge you to address expiring tax provisions supporting wind energy production. The future of the American wind industry requires a stable tax environment in which to operate. If we are to expect wind energy to contribute to our country's future energy needs, Congress must quickly work to reauthorize the wind production tax credit before our wind production capabilities are damaged. We ask that you move quickly to extend the production tax credit.

The growth in installations is supported by the rise of domestic manufacturing of the wind facilities' critical components. According to the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA), turbines, towers, and assembled nacelles are produced in over 400 manufacturing facilities that employ tens of thousands of skilled American workers. Failure to extend the production tax credit will weaken this growing manufacturing sector and destabilize an industry just before it completes its transformation to being cost competitive in the marketplace.

By extending this production tax credit, we must also be mindful of our country's current fiscal situation. An extension of the wind production tax credit should provide for some long term stability while setting forth a path for how the wind industry can move towards a market-based system. While it is clear that the wind industry currently requires tax incentives like the production tax credit to compete, Congress needs to provide the wind industry with the stability and predictability to plan for the future.

We are committed to working towards an energy policy that encompasses all forms of domestic capabilities. As our country seeks healthy industries and increasing job opportunities to aid in our economic growth, we urge you to pursue an extension of the wind production tax credit as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

Jerry Moran

Mark Udall

John Boozman

Kott P. Brown

Chuck Grassley

John Hosen

John John

Mark F. B. &

Tom Harlin

Jim Johnson

John J. Kenney

Jon Tester