



Governors'
Wind
Energy
Coalition

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Washington
Gov. Jay Inslee
Chairman

Iowa
Gov. Terry E. Branstad
Vice Chairman

May 26, 2015

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner, Leader McConnell, Leader Reid, and Leader Pelosi:

We are writing to urge you to support timely extensions of the renewable energy production and investment tax credits. We were pleased to see that the President's Fiscal Year 2016 budget request recognized the importance of the production and investment tax credits to the nation's energy future. We know there is strong bipartisan support for these incentives on Capitol Hill, as they are key components of a diversified national energy strategy.

These tax credits have made possible the robust growth of the American wind industry and thousands of renewable energy jobs in recent years, with substantial economic returns to our states and the nation. But these gains are at risk today because ongoing federal policy uncertainty continues to hamper the further development of the nation's wind industry. The passage late last year of an extension of the production tax credit (PTC), through 2014, was important, but more market certainty is needed to keep the industry growing strong.

Our assessment of the Department of Energy's recently-released *Wind Vision* report is that the domestic wind manufacturing industry is likely to stagnate over the next decade without the PTC. We anticipate that wind energy will be truly competitive with traditional energy sources soon given innovation in the industry. We also believe it is important to recognize all the public policy benefits of wind energy, including a diversified energy portfolio, public health benefits, domestically-sourced energy, and others. We are also concerned that thousands of manufacturing jobs could be lost without stable federal policy. Enormous potential also exists in the development of our nation's offshore wind energy resources, and the investment tax credit is a vital tool for our capturing that opportunity and further developing domestic renewable energy industries.

Regardless of the legislative mechanism you select to advance these tax incentives, we respectfully urge you to act promptly to provide a stable federal policy on which our citizens and industries can rely. We thank you for your support in the past, and respectfully request that Congress approve a multi-year extension of the renewable energy production and investment tax credits as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Jay Inslee
Governor of Washington
and Chairman



Terry E. Branstad
Governor of Iowa
and Vice Chairman

cc:

Members, U.S. Senate Finance Committee

Members, U.S. House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee

Members, U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

The Honorable Ernie Moniz, Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

The Honorable Sally Jewell, Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior

The Honorable Brian Deese, Counselor to the President

The Honorable Christy Goldfuss, Chair, White House Council on Environmental
Quality