



December 6, 2007

The Honorable Harry Reid
U.S. Senate Majority Leader

The Honorable Mitchell McConnell
U.S. Senate Minority Leader

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Assistant U.S. Senate Majority Leader

The Honorable Trent Lott
Assistant U.S. Senate Minority Leader

The Honorable Max Baucus
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance Chairman

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance Ranking Member

RE: Energy Security and Savings Act of 2007

Dear Leaders Reid and McConnell, Assistant Leaders Durbin and Lott, and Chairman Baucus and Ranking Member Grassley:

We are writing to urge passage of the Clean Renewable Energy and Conservation Tax Act of 2007 before the end of the year. Passage of this legislation, especially the tax title, will put our nation on the right course to fight high energy prices while hastening the deployment of new, carbon-smart energy sources. Solar power is one of our nation's cleanest sources of energy, and extending the solar investment tax credits (ITC) will enable businesses to create jobs in their communities while improving the environment on a global scale.

The Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) is the national trade association for the solar energy industry. We work to expand markets, strengthen research and development, remove market barriers, and improve education and outreach for solar. SEIA represents over 50,000 people who work in or support the solar energy industry. Our members include materials suppliers, manufacturers, equipment providers, installers, engineers, plant construction companies, electric utilities, consultants, financiers, and owners of solar energy systems for homes, commercial firms, and utilities.

The Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA) promotes consumer choice and economic freedom through public policy and industry operational excellence. Its members include the largest and fastest growing companies in the retail industry -- retailers, product manufacturers, and service suppliers -- which together account for more than \$1.5 trillion in annual sales. RILA members provide millions of jobs and operate more than 100,000 stores, manufacturing facilities and distribution centers domestically and abroad.

Letter continues on next page.



RILA members are among the nation's leaders in promoting "green" technologies. They choose solar power to better manage their energy costs and reduce their carbon footprint. Solar power represents a proven, domestic U.S. energy supply that will reduce our country's reliance on foreign energy while contributing to new, high-paying jobs. The ITC plays a critical role in engaging businesses to consider, plan for and utilize solar power. Extending and expanding the solar ITC would provide our members and other companies across the country with the stability needed to plan multi-year investments in on-site solar technology.

Companies seek federal leadership to allow them to make meaningful, cost-effective investments in clean, renewable energy supplies like solar technology. We know there are many difficult balances to strike in this important legislation, but for all these reasons believe extending the ITC is an investment well worth making. We urge you to pass the Clean Renewable Energy and Conservation Tax Act without delay to promote economic growth and sustainability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rhone Resch".

Rhone Resch
President
Solar Energy Industries Association

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Faith Cristol".

Faith A. Cristol, Esq.
Vice President, Workforce and Tax
Retail Industry Leaders Association