

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 18, 2008

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
H-232, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

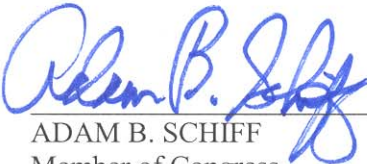
Dear Speaker Pelosi,

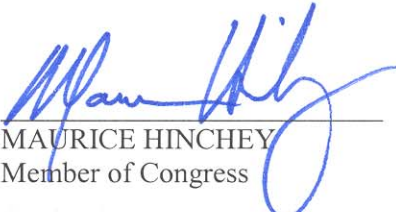
With the American economy mired in its deepest recession in decades, we are pleased that you are working on a stimulus package to bring prosperity back to all Americans. We ask that you consider a provision that would stimulate the private production of renewable energy while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

When this Congress passed an extension of the renewable energy Investment Tax Credit (ITC) in October, we made a down payment on our clean energy future. The solar and geothermal energy development spurred by the tax credit will also incubate the American clean-tech industry, an industry that is already flourishing in Europe and East Asia. However, this growth industry has struggled due to the general economic environment—renewable projects require up-front investment, and investment dollars are fleeing every industry. In addition, because the ITC is not refundable, the recession has weakened their efficacy enormously. With profits down across all industries, there are simply too few companies that have the tax appetite to use these tax credits, and so project financing has dried up. Without additional action, we will lose this opportunity to spur the distributed clean-tech infrastructure development that will help us pull out of the recession and establish a new American high-tech industry.


Clean, renewable energy is one of the best investments we can make in our future, and without improvements to the ITC, we may lose billions in new investment and over a hundred thousand current and potential jobs. As you complete the stimulus package, please strengthen the ITC by making it refundable or fully transferable, and allow states and local governments to contribute fully to renewable energy development by removing the provisions that reduce the federal subsidy if certain tax exempt funding mechanisms are used.

Sincerely,

  
ADAM B. SCHIFF  
Member of Congress

  
MAURICE HINCHEY  
Member of Congress

  
JOHN CONYERS, JR.  
Member of Congress

  
MIKE HONDA  
Member of Congress

  
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