

Chairman Kevin Brady
Ways & Means Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
301 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Sam Johnson
U.S. House of Representatives
2304 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20024

Representative Devin Nunes
U.S. House of Representatives
1013 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Pat Tiberi
U.S. House of Representatives
1203 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative David Reichert
U.S. House of Representatives
1127 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Charles Boustany, Jr. MD
U.S. House of Representatives
1431 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Peter Roskam
U.S. House of Representatives
2246 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Tom Price, MD
U.S. House of Representatives
100 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Vern Buchanan
U.S. House of Representatives
2104 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Adrian Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
2241 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Lynn Jenkins
U.S. House of Representatives
1526 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Erik Paulsen
U.S. House of Representatives
127 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Kenny Marchant
U.S. House of Representatives
2313 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Diane Black
U.S. House of Representatives
1131 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Tom Reed
U.S. House of Representatives
2437 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Todd Young
U.S. House of Representatives
1007 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Mike Kelly
U.S. House of Representatives
1519 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Jim Rennaci
U.S. House of Representatives
328 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Kristi Noem
U.S. House of Representatives
2422 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative George Holding
U.S. House of Representatives
507 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Jason Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
1118 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Bob Dold
U.S. House of Representatives
221 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Tom Rice
U.S. House of Representatives
223 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Patrick Meehan
U.S. House of Representatives
434 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Veterans support solar energy

7 December 2015

Dear Chairman Brady and Representatives Johnson, Nunes, Tiberi, Reichert, Boustany, Roskam, Price, Buchanan, Smith, Jenkins, Paulsen, Marchant, Black, Reed, Young, Kelly, Rennaci, Noem, Holding, Smith, Dold, Rice, and Meehan:

There is nothing like fighting a natural resource war against an enemy financed by petro-dollars to give you religion about renewable energy.

I am writing this letter because I know an extension of the solar investment tax credit (ITC) can create meaningful jobs for our veterans, boost America's economy, and provide energy security. This may eliminate the need for future wars over energy and save American taxpayers the trillions of dollars in war expenses. Stated simply, solar energy makes America safer, stronger, and more secure.

As a Navy officer, I served in the U.S. Special Forces in Afghanistan, where I was awarded the Bronze Star. Take it from me, I and many veterans are building the U.S. solar industry and going solar at home because we know that the more clean, affordable, domestic power we use, the safer and more resilient we make our nation. I am particularly proud of our industry's pledge to employ 50,000 veterans by 2020.

But we can only achieve our jobs goal and deliver the many benefits solar power offers if Congress approves the ITC. The credit, which was enacted in 2006 and is set to expire soon, drove tens of billions of dollars of private investment and tax revenue for communities.

During that time the solar industry invested wisely and cut its costs by over 70 percent while adding 150,000 jobs and building more than 22 gigawatts of domestic power generation. The U.S. solar industry now supplies enough electricity to power 5 million American homes. Americans who get their power from solar today can save money immediately on their utility bills. Those savings are attracting hundreds of thousands of American homeowners and businesses to go solar.

Yet for all it has accomplished in the last decade, the solar industry is just getting started. While solar could supply more than 20 percent of our domestic electricity needs, today it only provides about 1 percent. That means we need to keep investing.

The ITC is a great investment for America. Every dollar of tax credit has created more domestic, clean energy at less cost. Last year the solar industry grew by 31 percent; and through the first half of 2015, solar provided 40 percent of all new electric generation capacity in the U.S., according to the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) and U.S. Department of Energy, respectively.

The industry employs military veterans at a 39 percent higher rate than the total U.S. workforce. Solar companies are working with the military now to provide solar training to new veterans so they become "Solar Ready Vets." There is no question that extending the ITC and adding a provision to allow the tax

credit to take effect at the commencement of construction can move our nation further on a number of truly important fronts.

Your support for new legislation extending the solar investment tax credits (Section 48 and 25d) is essential to further reduce the cost of solar, increase our energy independence, and create and keep great jobs, especially for America's veterans.

Sincerely,



Nat Kremer

Chief Executive Officer, Clean Power Finance
Chairman of the Board, Solar Energy Industries Association