

October 29, 2019

RE: More Than 70 Associations Support the Renewable Energy Extension Act

Dear Members of Congress,

As organizations representing citizens, consumers, and businesses in all 50 states, we write to ask you to cosponsor H.R. 3961 introduced by Congressman Thompson and Congressman Cook or S.2289 introduced by Senator Cortez-Masto. Both bills would continue the Section 48 and Section 25D Investment Tax Credit (ITC) at the 30% level for five years. The federal ITC has been a critical innovation policy creating hundreds of thousands of jobs, lowering electricity prices for families and businesses, reducing carbon emissions, and maintaining America's competitive edge in emerging energy technologies. With the ITC set to begin ramping down in 2020, now is the time to continue this important policy.

First signed into law by President George W Bush as part of the 2005 Energy Policy Act, the federal ITC continues to play a critical role in driving energy innovation and American technological leadership. Over 300,000 Americans work in the industries affected by the ITC—solar, fuel cells, geothermal heat pumps, distributed wind, combined heat and power systems, and micro-turbines¹. This is more than double the number that worked in these industries less than a decade ago. Whether it is a farmer or a rancher in a rural community, a small business, or a homeowner, the tax credits are helping deploy innovative technologies, create jobs, and improve the energy efficiency of homes and commercial buildings.

The ITC has also been one of the nation's most important and successful climate policies. According to the Energy Information Administration (EIA), since the mid-2000s when the ITC was first enacted, the greenhouse gas intensity of the electricity sector has dropped by 25%². This emissions reduction has been aided in no small part by the rapid expansion of clean, ITC eligible technologies. A five-year extension of the ITC will accelerate this progress as it enables continued economies of scale and cost reductions.

Energy innovation should be a cornerstone of America's competitiveness strategy. The countries that pioneer the next generation of energy technologies will deepen geopolitical alliances and exert soft power by exporting advanced, clean energy technologies across the globe. It is in America's interest to maintain policies like the federal ITC that ensure that these innovations are pioneered in America.

Thank you for your service and please consider cosponsoring H.R. 3961 or S.2289 to accelerate America's leadership in creating the next generation of clean energy jobs.

Respectfully,

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<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a98cf80ec4eb7c5cd928c61/t/5c7f3708fa0d6036d7120d8f/1551849054549/USEER+2019+US+Energy+Employment+Report.pdf>

² <https://www.eia.gov/outlooks/aeo/pdf/aeo2019.pdf>

Alabama Solar Industries Association

Alliance for Clean Energy New York

American Farm Bureau Federation

American Solar Grazing Association

Arizona Solar Energy Industries Association

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education

California Geothermal Heat Pump Association

Colorado Solar and Storage Association

Combined Heat and Power Alliance

Connecticut Geothermal Association

Council for Christian Colleges & Universities

Distributed Wind Energy Association

Environmental and Energy Study Institute

Environmental Law and Policy Center (ELPC)

Fuel Cell & Hydrogen Energy Association

Geothermal Alliance of Illinois

Geothermal Exchange Organization

Hawai'i Solar Energy Association

Hawaii PV Coalition

Illinois Solar Energy Association

International District Energy Association (IDEA)

Iowa Geothermal Association

League of Conservation Voters (LCV)

Maryland, DC, and Virginia Solar Energy Industries Association

Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council

Michigan Geothermal Energy Association

Microgrid Resource Coalition

Minnesota Geothermal Heat Pump Association

Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association

National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO)

National Association of Home Builders

National Audubon Society

National Electrical Contractors Association

National Farmers Union

National Ground Water Association

National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

New York Geothermal Energy Organization

New York Solar Energy Industries Association

NJ Fuel Cell Coalition

Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC)

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

National Wildlife Federation (NWF)

Ohio Fuel Cell Coalition

Oregon Farm Bureau Federation

Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association

Pennsylvania Geothermal Heat Pump Association

People Power Now

Plumbing-Heating-Cooling-Contractors – National Association
Refrigeration Service Engineers Society
Renew Wisconsin
Renewable Energy Vermont
Solar Energy & Storage Association of Puerto Rico
Solar Energy Industries Association
Solar United Neighbors
Solar United Neighbors of AZ
Solar United Neighbors of CO
Solar United Neighbors of DC
Solar United Neighbors of FL
Solar United Neighbors of MD
Solar United Neighbors of MN
Solar United Neighbors of NJ
Solar United Neighbors of OH
Solar United Neighbors of PA
Solar United Neighbors of TX
Solar United Neighbors of VA
Solar United Neighbors of WV
South Dakota Renewable Energy Association
TechNet
The Society for College and University Planning
Utah Center for Civic Improvement
Virginia Geothermal Heat Pump Association
Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives
Windustry
Wisconsin Geothermal Association