



April 28, 2010

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
311 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I am writing on behalf of the Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) to thank you for introducing S.2899, the Renewable Energy Incentive Act, a bill that would extend and expand the Treasury's grant in lieu of tax credit program established under Section 1603 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy is an industry coalition that includes businesses and trade associations representing the suite of currently available energy technologies for reducing emissions of greenhouse gases. Wind, solar, hydropower, biomass, geothermal, biogas, and other renewable energy options, combined with supply-side and demand-side energy efficiency and natural gas, are proven economic engines that will foster economic growth and create new high-quality jobs.

The 1603 program was designed to bolster the renewable energy industries against the financing problems brought on by the collapse of the tax equity market and the program helped the renewable energy industries survive the recession. Now as the economy slowly recovers, financing problems remain -- the pace of new projects is sluggish and workers and capital are underutilized.

The Council believes the extension and expansion of the 1603 program as proposed in S.2899 is needed to promote continued job creation in the renewable energy industries. Without manufacturing and other incentives much of the demand for renewable products is likely to be met through imports since other nations have created a more favorable environment for investment. S.2899 will create incentives to allow the United States to compete with these other nations and will not only create clean energy jobs here in the United States, but will also increase demand for renewable technologies.

The Council looks forward to working with you and your staff to see the legislation move forward and enacted into law. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me in the Council's offices.

Sincerely,

Lisa Jacobson, President