



November 16, 2012

The Honorable Harry Reid
U.S. Senate Majority Leader
Capitol Building, S-221
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
U.S. Senate Republican Leader
Capitol Building, S-230
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
Capitol Building, H-232
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Leader
Capitol Building, H-204
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Reid and Leader McConnell, Speaker Boehner and Leader Pelosi:

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) urges Congress and the Administration to quickly reach a balanced agreement on a set of expiring and expired tax measures, including clean energy tax measures and future funding for many critical federal programs that support business growth and investment in the energy sector.

BCSE does not take a position on issues including entitlement reform or the expiring Bush-era tax credits, but clean energy tax and spending priorities will likely be considered as part of a larger agreement. Clean energy businesses are poised to help the U.S. economy grow, but it is critical that Congress and the Administration reach an agreement on these urgent fiscal issues that impact investment decision-making and job creation.

BCSE is a coalition of companies and trade associations from the energy efficiency, natural gas and renewable energy sectors, and also includes independent electric power producers, investor-owned utilities, public power and commercial end-users. Founded in 1992, the Council advocates for policies that expand the use of commercially-available clean energy technologies, products and services. The coalition's diverse business membership is united around the revitalization of the economy and the creation of a diverse, secure and reliable energy future for America.

Clean energy tax measures and a range of federal programs have provided value to U.S. clean energy businesses, helping these industries to grow and contribute to the U.S. economy. The tax code is currently one of the strongest drivers for energy investment in the country. Tax policy has been effective in encouraging private sector investment, reducing costs to consumers and industry, spurring technological innovation and enhancing the viability and deployment of a portfolio of clean energy options.

Further, programs such as those within the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, international clean energy and financing programs, farm programs, and offices and programs at the Department of the Interior have shown their value with research and development, commercialization and deployment, and siting and permitting of advanced energy technologies. As tax and budget issues are debated in the coming weeks, we encourage you to consider the value of these programs in helping U.S. businesses grow and deploy their technologies.

BCSE acknowledges the enormity of the task that lies ahead and we pledge our support to work with you to reach an agreement to address the nation's immediate fiscal issues.

Sincerely,

Lisa Jacobson
President