May 12, 2023

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Speaker of the House
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
S-230 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Congressmen McCarthy and Jeffries and Senators Schumer and McConnell:

On behalf of the Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) and Clean Energy Business Network (CEBN), we are writing to convey our strong support for the federal investments that have been made in clean energy, clean transportation, and energy efficiency through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) enacted in the 117th Congress. These investments, which are still being implemented, are being made in the form of assistance to states, consumers, and businesses as well as clean energy, clean transportation, and energy efficiency tax credits.

As you enter negotiations with President Biden to address the nation's debt limit and government spending BCSE and CEBN urge you to continue to support these IIJA and IRA programs to ensure the competitiveness of the U.S. economy.

The 2023 edition of the BCSE-BNEF Sustainable Energy in America Factbook reveals that federal investments in sustainable technologies are driving the clean energy transition. By the end of 2022, for example, electric vehicle and battery manufacturers raced to identify investment opportunities, announcing almost $17 billion in commitments to the North American battery supply chain.

Furthermore, federal investments in clean energy have spurred private-sector innovation and have enabled commercialization of many clean energy technologies, while creating jobs across the United States.

Since the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) passed last August the American Clean Power Association (ACP) has detailed over $150 billion in capital investment announced for utility-scale clean energy projects and manufacturing facilities. This is equivalent to five years’ worth of American clean energy investment, surpassing total investment into U.S. clean power projects commissioned between 2017–2021. Additionally, the organization E2 | Environmental Entrepreneurs has tracked 155 new projects announced across 33 states that will create more than 58,000 jobs.

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Now is not the time to turn back these critical commitments or create uncertainty for consumers, American businesses, and investors. This uncertainty could, in particular, shutter small businesses and startups which have begun attracting multi-year contracts and venture capital investment under the current policy landscape, only to have the ground shift beneath their feet.

BCSE and CEBN would welcome the opportunity to further discuss our views with you or your staff and to share some of our members’ clean energy, clean transportation, and energy efficiency projects that are underway or planned.

Please feel free to reach out to Ruth McCormick on the BCSE staff at rmccormick@bcse.org with any questions or to arrange a time to meet.

Sincerely,

Lisa Jacobson
President
Business Council for Sustainable Energy

Lynn Abramson
President
Clean Energy Business Network

About the BCSE and CEBN

BCSE is a coalition of companies and trade associations from the energy efficiency, energy storage, natural gas, renewable energy, sustainable transportation, and emerging decarbonization technology sectors. It includes independent electric power producers, investor-owned utilities, public utilities, equipment manufacturers, commercial end users, and service providers in energy and environmental markets. Founded in 1992, the coalition’s diverse business membership is united around the revitalization of the U.S. economy and the creation of a clean, secure, and reliable energy future in America.

BCSE is pleased to have an independent small- and medium-size businesses initiative under its banner: the Clean Energy Business Network (CEBN). Together, BCSE and CEBN represent a broad range of the clean energy economy, from Fortune 100 companies to small businesses working in all 50 states and over 350 Congressional districts. On a national basis, these industries support over 3 million U.S. jobs.