



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**American Clean Energy Industries Support the Cantwell-LeMieux Amendment**  
*Expansion of the 1603 Treasury Grant Program Will Create American Jobs, Promote Clean Energy Manufacturing and Production*

Washington, DC — The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) announced today its strong support for the Cantwell-LeMieux Amendment to Extend the “Section 1603” Clean Energy Treasury Grant Program. The amendment would extend and expand one of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act’s (ARRA) most successful programs, authorizing the Department of the Treasury to issue grants to renewable energy facilities that would otherwise qualify for the investment tax credit or production tax credit for projects which are begun before 2013.

In a [letter](#) sent to the full US Senate, BCSE President Lisa Jacobson urged the inclusion of the Cantwell-LeMieux Amendment within the tax extenders bill expected to be considered by the Senate this week, arguing that the extension and expansion of the 1603 Treasury Grant Program (TGP) is crucial to the creation of American jobs and the growth of clean energy manufacturing and generation through 2012.

By extending the TGP before its expiration at the close of 2010, the Cantwell-LeMieux measure will drive capital into action now, allowing investments in the remainder of 2010 to drive projects, clean energy deployment, and job creation in 2011 and 2012. The measure would also expand eligibility to those in the public power sector, increasing opportunities for clean energy projects and accelerating crucial economies of scale for the renewable energy manufacturing and development sectors.

“The TGP has been a highly effective vehicle for creating well-paying American clean energy jobs quickly,” wrote Ms. Jacobson. Her letter cites two recent independent studies on the TGP that demonstrate the program’s job-creation effects in 2009 and that project even greater results should a measure like Cantwell-LeMieux take effect:

- The Lawrence Berkeley Lab issued a [report](#) in April 2010 that found the TGP had created over 55,000 jobs in wind and geothermal industries in 2009;
- EuPD Research released a [study](#) in May 2010 demonstrating that 17,000 solar jobs were supported in 2009 by the TGP and that extending the TGP by two years would add nearly 65,000 new jobs to the solar workforce and supporting industries across the US by 2015.

Ms. Jacobson concluded her letter with the simple statement, “The immediate passage of these extenders will help create more high-quality clean energy jobs this year.”

*Since its founding in 1992, the mission of the BCSE has been to advance policies that accelerate the deployment of readily available clean energy resources and technologies and that take into account the full economic and environmental attributes of energy production and use. For more information on the BCSE, please visit <http://www.bcse.org>.*