

**Audubon \* Chesapeake Climate Action Network \* Earthjustice  
Environment America \* Greenpeace \* Kyoto USA  
National Tribal Environmental Council \* National Wildlife Federation  
Natural Resources Defense Council \* Penn Future \* Public Citizen  
Union of Concerned Scientists \* Sierra Club \* Southern Alliance for Clean Energy  
Western Organization of Resource Councils \* The Wilderness Society**

July 30, 2008

Dear Senator:

On behalf of our millions of members and activists, we urge you to vote yes on the Jobs, Energy, Families, and Disaster Relief Act of 2008 (S. 3335). The bill would extend federal tax incentives for energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies that have expired or will expire at the end of this year. These incentives must be extended immediately to avoid significant harm to the developing clean energy industries in the United States. The technologies produced by these industries play a vital role in reducing global warming pollution, creating new high-wage jobs in our country, and saving consumers and businesses money on their energy bills.

S. 3335 would extend the renewable energy production tax credit, clean renewable energy bonds, efficient commercial buildings tax deduction, investment tax credit for solar and fuel cell systems, tax credit for energy efficiency upgrades to existing homes, tax credits for the production of efficient home appliances, and tax incentives for consumer purchases of energy efficient products. The bill would also establish a new consumer tax credit for plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, which will make clean, efficient grid-powered vehicles more accessible to buyers and will help to build the electric drive industry in the U.S.

Most of the incentives in S. 3335 have either expired or will expire at the end of this year. It is critical for the sustained development of the clean energy technology industries that these incentives be continued. A disruption of the incentives would lead to layoffs and a decrease in much needed private capital flowing to these industries. According to a recent study by Navigant Consulting, failure to promptly extend renewable energy tax incentives places at risk 116,000 jobs in the wind and solar industries and more than \$19 billion in clean energy investment.

Every day that passes without an extension takes a toll on jobs and investment in clean energy projects. The clean energy technology industries have been plagued by a boom and bust cycle caused by erratic and short-term extensions of the clean energy tax incentives. If these incentives are not extended immediately, we risk a major contraction in the clean energy industries that have been a bright spot in the otherwise troubled economy and are essential to solving global warming. We urge you to vote yes on S. 3335.

Sincerely,

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