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United States Committee on Ways & Means

Distinguished members:

I am writing to you today to express my **strong opposition** to the extension of the production tax credit and the investment tax credit for renewable energy, namely wind energy. This industry has taken the tax dollars of hard working Americans and produced no meaningful energy benefit. This failed technology has been promoted by wind industry lobbyists, for the benefit of huge corporate profits, at the expense of ordinary people and the environment.

In my town, a wind developer proposed an 18 MW project with a substation. The cost of the project was estimated at \$40,000,000. Our average wind speed is around 12.6 miles/hour, which barely makes it a viable site. When we calculate the average wind speed and a 25% utilization rate of the turbine, the project would produce roughly \$800,000/yr. in electricity. So before any expenses, based on a generous 25 life expectancy of the turbines it will generate \$20,000,000 in revenue. No business would do this! This is not a new industry, they have been taking our tax dollars for 30 years, and what do we have to show for it? There are over 30,000 wind turbines in America and they do not produce even 1% of our energy needs. Wind is intermittent, and by its very nature cannot be a reliable form of energy.

Please stop the funding of this destructive industry. Wind energy development is ruining some of the most pristine dwindling environments; it destroys migratory birds, and bats. There are some awful health effects on the people that are forced to live near these turbines, and it decreases the property values of hard working Americans that are unfortunate enough to have turbines placed near their homes. By sending our tax dollars to foreign companies it is destroying our economy, and deterring real job growth for Americans with viable industry. \$14 billion last year alone was given to them via the production tax credit, the more recent investment tax credit, and other tax and regulatory provisions, as well as loan guarantees and outright grants. You need to be more fiscally responsible.

We need a sustainable energy policy, but I urge you to allow the scientific community to develop reliable solutions, not lobbyist. Please be responsible with our limited tax dollars

and END the Production Tax Credit, the Investment Tax Credit, and any other Federal support of industrial wind energy.

Sincerely,

Carol Frigault