

April 15, 2013

To: Members of the Energy Tax Reform Working Group

Are You Victims of a “CHARADE”?

Webster’s dictionary defines the word “**CHARADE**” as *an empty or deceptive act or pretense*. A pretense is described as an attempt to make something that is not the case, appear true. Synonyms include the following: sham, travesty, farce, fake, imitation, deception, and hoax.

Could it be that for more than twenty years you, and the American taxpayers who you represent, have been the victims of a “**CHARADE**” perpetrated by foreign and domestic wind developers who have done a remarkable job of bilking us out of billions of dollars in the form of unsuspecting government subsidies. After all, who would ever question the need for this type of support? What a perfect place to infiltrate!

Has anyone on your committee really stopped to take a look at the impact the “*Industrial Wind Movement*” has had on this country and just how ridiculous it must look to an outsider who might be visiting earth for the first time? How is it that we have blindly watched out-dated inefficient technology that worked only at its point-of-use to provide power to the immediate area when conditions were right (a.k.a. when the wind blows) be repackaged and made giant-sized and a gazillion times more costly, thinking it would be more appealing to “unenlightened and unsuspecting” investors who were being “brainwashed” by corporations touting “green energy” at all costs all while they were bilking the US government and taxpayers out of billions of dollars via subsidies (according to your recent March 2013 GAO report)? Do you not see anything wrong with this picture or have you been duped by the “**CHARADE**”?

The “*Industrial Wind Industry*” finds itself in a mess today as the lies and deception perpetrated on the American public (any everywhere else in the world for that matter) have come back to haunt them. Their playbooks were full of “**CHARADES**” they concocted to use on unsuspecting landowners and local town governments who swallowed not only “the worm”, but “the hook, line, and sinker” and who now today find themselves regretting the destruction and disruption brought on their communities all in the name of greed. They justified the wind developers antics that lined the pockets of greedy leaseholders and some less than honest government officials and allowed them to make money from other townspeople’s misfortune in the form of lowered property values, sleepless nights, and noise and infrasound issues that never end. They said it’s a small price to pay in the name of “green energy” and “saving the planet” and they called you “unpatriotic” if you didn’t agree.

But now the industrial wind world is crumbling and the “wind bubble” has burst. Almost all foreign countries have cut their subsidies to this industry... utility companies cannot afford to buy their power... investors are jumping ship because they see the writing on the wall... the out-dated technology cannot compete with other forms of energy production and is more inefficient than it lead everyone to originally believe... not to mention the lawsuits that are piling up against this industry because of their lack of regard and respect for the American public. The industry’s days are numbered.

The sad thing in this situation is that you, as members of our Congress, were elected and are being paid by the American taxpayers to watch out for their investments (their tax dollars) and still, after all these years, you find yourself in the position of discussing whether to recommend a continuance of this “**CHARADE**”. You have all the resources needed to thoroughly investigate this issue and yet you choose to be swayed by corporations who have no emotional attachment to the end products of this “**CHARADE**” ... those being human suffering and wasteful spending.

I represent a grassroots group of hundreds of concerned NY voters who have spent thousands of hours voluntarily enlightening themselves on this issue over the past five years. We have no paid lobbyists working the halls of Washington and we receive no money from political organizations. We are just regular tax-paying, law-abiding citizens who are asking you, elected officials working for the American taxpayer, to just do the job you were sent to Washington to do by investing our taxpayer dollars only in the research and development of products that stand a real chance of benefiting our energy future and are not a sham, travesty, farce, fake, imitation, deception, or hoax. Let viable companies be responsible enough to stand on their own merits as they bring their products to market.

End the production tax credit for industrial wind.

End the “**CHARADE**” today.

Sincerely,

Allan Newell, Vice-President
Concerned Residents of Hammond



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