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Title of Hearing: Hearing on Certain Expiring Tax Provisions

The New Progressive Alliance respectfully urge Congress to extend the wind energy production tax credit (PTC) and make it as permanent as the fossil fuel subsidies. The PTC resulted in billions of dollars in private investment in homegrown American wind power each year. This in turn brings in construction jobs immediately, maintenance jobs in the long term, and generates revenue for our community schools and hospitals over the lifetime of the project. This in turn helps our national security and economic competitiveness. Increasing the amount of power that our country gets from clean, homegrown, affordable resources is an excellent thing for us to do – and this tax credit provides an incentive for the wind industry to continue to do just that.

In the past – unlike fossil fuel subsidies, tax credits, grants, guaranteed loans, and free clean ups – wind energy PTCs have been allowed to periodically expire with the predictable result of less wind energy. Denmark – a country scarcely bigger than metro Atlanta – produces 25% wind energy and is on track to produce 50% wind energy by 2020. The difference is public policy, not lack of technical expertise in the United States.

The New Progressive Alliance urges the committee to take up a permanent extension of the wind energy production tax credit right away.