



April 15, 2013

Energy Tax Reform Working Group  
Washington, DC

**SUBJECT: Comments: Energy Tax Reform Working Group**

Dear Representative Brady:

I strongly urge you *not* to renew the Production Tax Credits for Wind Power. According to Kevin Bullis, writer for the *MIT Technology Review*, in the 20 years since it was instituted, the PTC for wind has not stimulated any radical changes to wind turbines. Instead, it appears to encourage developers to stick with proven technology in order to produce a steady stream of revenue.

In addition, now that wind power has been implemented fairly widely, we better understand the pros and cons of wind. For example, we know that inland wind, in particular, will never replace other forms of energy (e.g., fossil fuels), because the intermittent nature of wind requires other forms of energy to be constantly on demand to pick up the slack when the wind fails. Some estimates suggest that wind will *never* be able to represent more than 2% of the US energy production.

Further, the PTC for wind has caused wind companies to put up towers in places where wind is notoriously unpredictable, such as the Maine mountains. As a result, industrial wind turbines are crosshatching the Maine landscape at the expense of visual impact on a state that relies on its “brand” to attract tourists, one of its major economic drivers. It would have been better if each state receive PTC for the “green” energy sources it has most in abundance, for Maine that would be wood and water.

In conclusion, please recommend that the PTC for wind power be abandoned. There are much better ways to use tax payer dollars to support greener energy production.

Sincerely,

Paula F. Moore, Ed. D.