Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 1, 2012

The Honorable Pat Tiberi
Chairman
U.S. House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures
106 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Tiberi:

As Members of Congress from Colorado, a state where thousands of workers are employed because of the wind industry, we write to express our strong support for an extension of the wind energy production tax credit (PTC).

The PTC is vital to the future of wind energy production in Colorado and across the nation. Colorado in particular has upwards of 6,000 individuals employed in jobs related to the wind industry – many of which are at stake should the PTC expire right now. Additionally, many rural communities are recipients of new revenues thanks to wind energy production.

Each of us believes in a truly all of the above approach when it comes to U.S. energy policy. Both traditional and renewable sources play vital roles in enhancing our domestic energy supply, thus strengthening our energy independence as a nation.

While the PTC does not expire until the end of 2012, it is imperative that it be renewed as soon as possible. In order for a company to be eligible for the PTC, it must have wind turbines up and running by the end of the given calendar year. As such, projects for the 2013 calendar year should already be in the planning and development process in order to be completed in a timely fashion. Simply put, Congress cannot wait until November or December to consider an extension of the PTC. Doing so would result in massive layoffs and project delays for the companies that are expecting it.

The wind industry is strong, and with a predictable timeframe to reduce the credit, it will continue to remain that way. Thus, while we ask for an extension of the credit as it currently exists, we encourage you to examine a plan to reduce that credit in subsequent years, find a way to pay for the credit, and work towards comprehensive tax reform and a tax structure in which the PTC is no longer needed.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cory Gardner
Member of Congress (CO-4)

Scott Tipton
Member of Congress (CO-3)

Mike Coffman
Member of Congress (CO-6)