April 23, 2012

To: Ways and Means Committee
Via Email: waysandmeans.submissions@mail.house.gov

Re: Hearing on Certain Expiring Tax Provisions

Ayers Maritime Services, Inc., a leading Shipping Agency and Terminal Operator based in Houston, Texas urges Congress to extend the wind energy production tax credit (PTC) as quickly as possible.

Our company represents vessels loading and discharging in the Port of Houston and Port of Beaumont, Texas carrying components for the wind energy industry and this activity contributes a significant portion of our business. We employ longshoremen, terminal drivers, truck drivers and other essential personnel to handle this equipment moving through Houston. The loss of this business will significantly effect our bottom line and hiring efforts.

With the uncertainly of the PTC’s future, we understand from buyers and sellers both that they are currently winding down production and installation of new units and are redirecting efforts to other countries. This will result in the loss of the business for us and even should the PTC be extended later this year or next, new production could not begin for over a year forcing us to lay off trained employees and start again with new trainees if/when production resumes.

We strongly urge this committee to immediately take up an extension of the wind energy production tax credit.

Sincerely,
Ayers Maritime Services, Inc.

Larry L. Renaud

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