I, Shari L Meisel, a business owner in Thornton, CO, respectfully urge Congress to extend the wind energy production tax credit (PTC) as quickly as possible.

I was unemployed for 3 of 5 years and worked extremely hard to negotiated for Vestas Wind Systems, Nacelles’ cable assembly contract on behalf of Walker Component Group, Denver, CO. We won that contract and for two years have been ramping manufacturing production with Vestas, NA out of Brighton, CO. We have hired new staff and have many opportunities not only with Vestas but now other Wind Energy (WE) turbine manufacturers and sub-contractors such as transformers.

My company, Green Energy 911, LLC, stands to grow as a supply chain resource to the WE industry in NA and globally, based right here in Colorado, but this opportunity to expand won't happen if the PTC is not extended and soon.

In fact the “cliff” of down turn in business and manufacturing is heading toward us rapidly. Within a few months Walker Component Group will have to begin layoffs because of the hesitation of purchasers of wind turbines in America. My company, GE911, will have to post-pone hiring.

Turbine manufacturing is a homegrown success story. America has been an emerging market in the WE global industry. Without the PTC we lose this growth. No matter who is in Washington, energy independence and diversification is a good thing for all Americans.

Please, I respectfully urge the committee to take up an extension of the wind energy production tax credit right away. Don’t delay any longer. Protect the manufacturing work force in America. None of us want to be unemployed again.

Shari L. Meisel
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