



Leeco Steel , LLC
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RE: Hearing on Certain Expiring Tax Provisions

I, John Purcell, Vice President, Wind Energy for Leeco Steel, LLC, Lisle, IL respectfully urge Congress to extend the wind energy production tax credit (PTC) as quickly as possible.

The PTC has provided a way forward for thousands of good paying jobs to be created for many Americans in need of these jobs today. Without it, a minimum of 37,000 jobs are at immediate risk, and many of those jobs are already being eliminated as the slowdown in manufacturing in the wind sector is already taking place.

My company, Leeco Steel, serves as a raw plate steel provider to many of the wind tower factories across America, and have been since a stable PTC was established in 2005. The on again, off again politics of the PTC prior to 2005 did not allow for a strong manufacturing supply chain to be established in the US. In 2005, the US had about 25% local manufacturing within the wind industry. Today, with a stable PTC, the US participation has grown to roughly 65% of the supply chain. However, that is quickly shrinking due to the impending expiration of the PTC. Just today, LM Fiberglass announced layoffs of 180 good paying manufacturing jobs in the US due to the slowdown in the wind industry. Vestas also issued another warning of looming layoffs in the US as a result of the slowdown due to the PTC expiry date nearing and orders within the industry being nearly non-existent on the horizon for much of 2013.

Leeco Steel is a major player in the wind industry, and our business in the wind industry is expected to suffer dramatically as we move beyond the June time frame. If the PTC is allowed to expire, it will deal a significant blow to the many years of effort we have put into this industry, and many of our wind tower manufacturing customers will be left to wonder when they will have to close their factories for a period of time or potentially altogether, depending on when an extension can be passed.

It is imperative that the PTC is extended immediately, and I am asking for your support of this extension now.

Best regards,

John Purcell
Vice President, Wind Energy