May 9, 2012


Dear Committee on Ways and Means Members:

For 20 years, taxpayers have propped up the industrial wind energy industry. Despite billions and billions of dollars ($14 billion last year) given to them via the production tax credit, the more recent investment tax credit, and other tax and regulatory provisions, as well as loan guarantees and outright grants, the industry still continues to demand our hard-earned tax dollars.

And even after 20 years of such largesse, the industry can not show any meaningful benefit concerning any energy, pollution, or carbon problem. Not ONE conventional power plant has been shut down, despite thousands of industrial turbines in operation.

Instead, rural communities have been left divided, landscapes degraded, bird and bat populations threatened, and already dwindling natural habitats destroyed. Farmers use of pesticides have climbed, due to the lack of bats to naturally control insects.

I urge you to END the Production Tax Credit, the Investment Tax Credit, and any other federal support of industrial wind energy.

Sincerely,

Sheila E. Salvatore