

WHITE COUNTY
Economic Development

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RE: Hearing on Certain Expiring Tax Provisions

I, Connie Neininger, the economic development director for White County, Indiana, respectfully urge Congress to extend the wind energy production tax credit (PTC) as quickly as possible.

Indiana is a state that is fairly new to wind development, but we already have over 1,300 MW of wind energy in production today, with the potential for even more across the northern half of our state. Unfortunately, we have already watched wind projects be curtailed due to the uncertainty of the PTC. Our wind farms are employing local people and benefiting all residents with lower taxes due to the increased assessed valuation in our county.

Energy production from wind helps more than just the wind developer, it helps the whole community. The earlier the PTC is extended, the more chance of investments being made in rural communities . . . the heart of America. Wind development preserves our farmland with sustainable energy and sustainable agriculture.

The PTC drives billions of dollars in private investment in homegrown American wind power each year. I have seen the wind farm in White County revitalize our community – bringing in construction jobs at first, maintenance jobs in the long term, and generating revenue for our local schools and hospitals. Increasing the amount of power that our country gets from clean, homegrown, affordable resources is an excellent way for us to decrease our dependence on foreign oils – and ensure that jobs, from wind technicians to manufacturing wind components, will continue to support our families.

I urge the committee to take up an extension of the wind energy production tax credit at the earliest opportunity. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Connie M. Neininger
Economic Development Director

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