

RE: More Than 70 Associations Support the Renewable Energy Extension Act

Dear Members of Congress,

As organizations representing citizens, consumers, and businesses in all 50 states, we write to ask you to cosponsor H.R. 3961 introduced by Congressman Thompson and Congressman Cook or S.2289 introduced by Senator Cortez Masto. Both bills would continue the Section 48 and Section 25D Investment Tax Credit (ITC) at the 30% level for five years. The federal ITC has been a critical innovation policy creating hundreds of thousands of jobs, lowering electricity prices for families and businesses, reducing carbon emissions, and maintaining America's competitive edge in emerging energy technologies. With the ITC set to begin ramping down in 2020, now is the time to continue this important policy.

First signed into law by President George W Bush as part of the 2005 Energy Policy Act, the federal ITC continues to play a critical role in driving energy innovation and American technological leadership. Over 300,000 Americans work in the industries affected by the ITC—solar, fuel cells, geothermal heat pumps, distributed wind, combined heat and power systems, and micro-turbines<sup>1</sup>. This is more than double the number that worked in these industries less than a decade ago. Whether it is a farmer or a rancher in a rural community, a small business, or a homeowner, the tax credits are helping deploy innovative technologies, create jobs, and improve the energy efficiency of homes and commercial buildings.

The ITC has also been one of the nation's most important and successful climate policies. According to the Energy Information Administration (EIA), since the mid-2000s when the ITC was first enacted, the greenhouse gas intensity of the electricity sector has dropped by 25%<sup>2</sup>. This emissions reduction has been aided in no small part by the rapid expansion of clean, ITC eligible technologies. A five-year extension of the ITC will accelerate this progress as it enables continued economies of scale and cost reductions.

Energy innovation should be a cornerstone of America's competitiveness strategy. The countries that pioneer the next generation of energy technologies will deepen geopolitical alliances and exert soft power by exporting advanced, clean energy technologies across the globe. It is in America's interest to maintain policies like the federal ITC that ensure that these innovations are pioneered in America.

Thank you for your service and please consider cosponsoring H.R. 3961 or S.2289 to accelerate America's leadership in creating the next generation of clean energy jobs.

Respectfully,

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.eia.gov/outlooks/aeo/pdf/aeo2019.pdf>

Alabama Solar Industry Association	Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council
Alliance for Clean Energy New York	Michigan Geothermal Energy Association
American Farm Bureau Federation	Microgrid Resource Coalition
American Solar Grazing Association	Minnesota Geothermal Heat Pump Association
Arizona Solar Energy Industries Association	Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education	National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO)
California Geothermal Heat Pump Association	National Association of Home Builders
Colorado Solar and Storage Association	National Audubon Society
Combined Heat and Power Alliance	National Electrical Contractors Association
Connecticut Geothermal Association	National Farmers Union
Council for Christian Colleges & Universities	National Ground Water Association
Distributed Wind Energy Association	National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
Environmental and Energy Study Institute	New York Geothermal Energy Organization
Environmental Law and Policy Center (ELPC)	New York Solar Energy Industries Association
Fuel Cell & Hydrogen Energy Association	NJ Fuel Cell Coalition
Geothermal Alliance of Illinois	Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC)
Geothermal Exchange Organization	Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
Hawai'i Solar Energy Association	National Wildlife Federation (NWF)
Hawaii PV Coalition	Ohio Fuel Cell Coalition
Illinois Solar Energy Association	Oregon Farm Bureau Federation
International District Energy Association (IDEA)	Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association
Iowa Geothermal Association	Pennsylvania Geothermal Heat Pump Association
League of Conservation Voters (LCV)	People Power Now
Maryland, DC, and Virginia Solar Energy Industries Association	

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Plumbing-Heating-Cooling-Contractors – National Association  
Refrigeration Service Engineers Society  
Renew Wisconsin  
Renewable Energy Vermont  
Solar Energy & Storage Association of Puerto Rico  
Solar Energy Industries Association  
Solar United Neighbors  
Solar United Neighbors of AZ  
Solar United Neighbors of CO  
Solar United Neighbors of DC  
Solar United Neighbors of FL  
Solar United Neighbors of MD  
Solar United Neighbors of MN  
Solar United Neighbors of NJ  
Solar United Neighbors of OH  
Solar United Neighbors of PA  
Solar United Neighbors of TX  
Solar United Neighbors of VA  
Solar United Neighbors of WV  
South Dakota Renewable Energy Association  
TechNet  
The Society for College and University Planning  
Utah Center for Civic Improvement  
Virginia Geothermal Heat Pump Association  
Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives  
Windustry  
Wisconsin Geothermal Association