



ENVIRONMENTAL ENTREPRENEURS®

The *Independent Business Voice* for the Environment

www.e2.org

December 12, 2011

The Honorable Max Baucus
Chairman
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dave Camp
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
United States House
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sander M. Levin
Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means
United States House
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Baucus, Ranking Member Hatch, Chairman Camp, and Ranking Member Levin:

As Congress moves to complete its business for the year we, as members of Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2), are writing to urge you to extend important tax provisions that can move our nation toward a clean energy economy, and to ensure that tax and spending bills do not include any anti-environmental riders. The need to move forward on energy programs must not be used as an excuse to do environmental damage.

E2 is a non-partisan, national community of business leaders who promote strong environmental policy to grow the economy. We are entrepreneurs, investors, and professionals from every sector of the economy who collectively have been involved in financing, creating or working in the early development of more than 1,100 companies, which have created over 500,000 jobs. Our members manage over \$90 billion in private equity capital that will flow over the next several years into new companies.

We believe it is essential for economic growth, job creation, national security and the sake of our planet's future to extend the tax provisions which encourage energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy. These provisions have a proven record of success. They include the Renewable Energy Production Tax Credit, the Efficient Appliances Manufacturer Tax Credit, the Investment Tax Credit for Offshore Wind Energy, the Advanced Energy Manufacturing Tax Credit, and the Treasury Grant Program for Renewable Energy Projects.

However, the legislation to extend these provisions must not include unrelated, problematic measures such as forcing through dirty fuel projects like the Keystone XL pipeline or undermining the Clean Air Act. There is simply no excuse for slowing the important work of giving investors and entrepreneurs the certainty they need by adding poison pills to tax legislation.

According to the International Trade Administration, by 2008 the U.S. environmental technology sector alone was generating approximately \$300 billion in revenues, and supporting nearly 1.7 million jobs.

Exports have grown dramatically from less than \$10 billion in 1990 to about \$43.8 billion in 2008, and the U.S. share of foreign environmental technology markets has increased.

With a struggling economy, Congress should be supporting successful, common-sense policies that yield economic benefits and improve Americans' quality of life. We urge you to move forward quickly on a tax extenders package that is free of extraneous provisions that would harm the environment.

Sincerely,

The following 219 E2 members have signed this letter:

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CEO, Lucesco Lighting Inc

Maryvonne Abbott (California)

Dan Abrams (California)

President/CEO, Cross River Pictures

Clifford Adams (New York)

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