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June 22, 2009

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
703 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Mr. Charman
Dear Senator Bingaman:

I write on behalf of the American Wind Energy Association to thank you for your leadership on the American Clean Energy Leadership Act. The wind industry is grateful for the inclusion of a national renewable electricity standard (RES), our top policy priority, in this bill.

Like you, we believe that a strong national energy policy is essential to our national and economic security. We also believe that a strong national RES is an essential component of that policy. A strong national RES will give businesses the certainty they need to invest in renewable energy industry manufacturing facilities and employ hundreds of thousands of Americans in high-quality jobs. A strong RES is also the only policy that will drive near-term deployment of renewables and, in turn, enable immediate reductions in carbon dioxide emissions.

The U.S. Congress now has a historic opportunity to put in place a policy that would foster a brand new manufacturing industry in this country – one that would create new American jobs, and produce manufactured goods that would work to immediately reduce global warming. Thank you for recognizing this opportunity. We appreciate your efforts to include the RES in the bill and hope to work with you to strengthen the RES as the bill moves forward. Thank you.

Warm regards,

Denise Bode
CEO
American Wind Energy Association