Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader of the Senate
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel
Chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Max Baucus
Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Reid, Chairman Rangel and Chairman Baucus,

The energy bills that the House and Senate passed in the last few months were groundbreaking efforts to ensure that clean, renewable energy becomes the energy of the future. The bills each had important provisions to strengthen research efforts in all areas of renewable energy, including solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, and hydropower. We are sure that these elements will spur important growth in the new high-tech, clean energy economy and ensure that America is the world leader in renewable energy. The bills also have extensive sections on energy efficiency that will save Americans billions of dollars. In other areas, however, there were serious differences between the bills and difficult compromises may be necessary. We encourage you to ensure that non-controversial measures that have bipartisan support make it into the final bill.

In particular, the House bill, H.R. 3221, included extensions of the renewable energy production tax credit, which was extended through 2012, and the solar energy and fuel cell investment tax credit, which was extended through 2016. These incentives play a vital role in encouraging businesses to invest in renewable energy and bring the entrepreneurial spirit of the American people into the fight to reduce our dependence on foreign oil. The tax credits place energy that doesn't pollute our air and water on a level playing field with older technologies that have hidden environmental and health costs. Without the renewable energy tax credits, this fledgling high-tech industry would grind to a halt, threatening our competitiveness in the global economy.

Companies across the country depend on the production and investment tax credits to justify their investment in renewable energy to their shareholders, and they need a commitment from Congress that the credit is here to stay. Please restore these important incentives so that we can keep our economy growing by staying on the cutting edge of energy development.

Sincerely,

Adam B. Schiff

ADAM B. SCHIFF
Member of Congress

Neil Abercrombie

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Member of Congress

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