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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

July 19, 2012

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eric Cantor
House Majority Leader
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Camp
Chairman, House Ways & Means Committee
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner, Majority Leader Cantor and Chairman Camp:

As we consider future tax reform measures, including an extension of the Bush tax cuts, I respectfully ask you also include an extension of the wind energy production tax credit (PTC). The PTC is set to expire on December 31, 2012, and if not extended will result in the loss of thousands of good-paying jobs in Colorado and across the country.

I hope and expect our nation to utilize and adopt an all-of-the-above energy strategy to further our goal of energy independence, and the wind energy industry is critical to helping provide for the future energy needs and security of the United States. The Federal Government should focus efforts toward making it less burdensome for the private sector to develop wind energy sources. Taxes should be lowered, and regulatory processes should be reduced and streamlined to assist enterprising companies to bring their products to the free market. Failure to extend the PTC will cost the U.S. thousands of direct and related private sector jobs and would send a signal to the energy sector that the United States is not a friendly place to engage in business.

The PTC expired three times since 2000 (in 2000, 2002, and 2004), and each time the wind industry experienced precipitous drops in annual wind capacity installations. This resulted in a direct loss of jobs and economic growth.

If the PTC expires, this tax increase on the wind energy industry will jeopardize our economic recovery and our future energy security. Again, please consider including an extension of the PTC the week of July 29 when the House votes on the extension of the Bush tax cuts.

Sincerely,

Ed Perlmutter (CO-07)
Member of Congress