

Immediate action requested:

Bill Mollring and David Baker have brought it my attention that the Federal tax credits for new wind and solar development projects are set to expire at the end of this year, and political party bickering has prevented their extension or the implementation of new ones. This would be a major body-blow to investors and utilities groups hoping to develop new power generation facilities based on wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, or other forms of alternative energy.

Here are a few links to news articles on the issue:

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/30/opinion/30friedman.html?_r=1

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2008/0122/p03s05-usec.html>

<http://news.moneycentral.msn.com/provider/providerarticle.aspx?feed=AP&date=20080602&id=8716988>

We cannot allow these tax credits to expire. We cannot allow Congress to be so self-absorbed in political infighting that they forget to guide our nation, not only out of the current poor economic situation, but into a secure and renewable energy policy. (Some “green” manufacturing companies are already moving their factories—and their jobs—overseas so that the whip-saw policies of Congress do not undercut their corporate survival.)

Action requested:

Call House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s office in Washington, D.C., at 202-225-4965 or in San Francisco, California at 415-556-4862.

Call Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid’s office in Washington at 202-224-3542, in Reno at 775-686-5750, in Carson City at 775-882-7343, or in Las Vegas at 702-388-5020.

Call Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell’s office in Washington at 202-224-2541, in Lexington at 859-224-8286, in Louisville at 502-582-6304, or in Bowling Green at 270-781-1673.

Call your own representatives (go to <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml> to find telephone numbers by typing in your ZIP code).

Demand that the bickering stop and that a coherent energy policy be developed that includes **at least** a ten-year tax credit for companies attempting to develop alternative sources of energy.

Continue the letter-writing campaign to all Federal elected officials. The link above can guide you through the procedure of emailing your Senators and Representatives, as well as the offices of the President and Vice-President. A sample letter is attached to give you a few ideas. Feel free to change it to suit your own style.