April 5, 2016

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

On behalf of our organizations and the millions of Americans we represent, we write to express our strong opposition to extending expiring renewable energy provisions on upcoming legislation reauthorizing the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Congress considered the matter of expiring tax provisions less than 4 months ago. The $680 billion package signed into law in December made some of these items permanent and allowed more than two dozen others to expire at the end of this past year, laying the groundwork for comprehensive tax reform. The $1.4 billion in expiring tax provisions currently under consideration — pertaining to wind power, geothermal heat pumps, fuel cell facilities and combined heat and power (CHP) properties — are a distortion of the tax laws for special interests in the renewable energy industry and were wisely left out of this package.

It should also be noted that Congress extended significantly favorable tax treatment to renewable energy in omnibus appropriation legislation that accompanied the aforementioned tax extender package. This bill included 5-year extensions of the main federal provisions for renewables, the wind production tax credit (PTC) and the solar investment tax credit (ITC), at a cost of $23.8 billion over the next decade.

Government subsidies, loans, mandates, and tax policies regarding renewables have consistently failed to deliver on their promises of long-term job creation and economic viability. Americans deserve access to energy solutions that are affordable and reliable—ones that should be able to stand on their own in the marketplace.

We encourage you to oppose efforts to use unrelated legislation as a vehicle to extend expiring tax provisions for renewable energy. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brent Gardner, Vice President of Government Affairs
Americans for Prosperity
Amy Noone Frederick, President
60 Plus Association

Phil Kerpen, President
American Commitment

Dan Schneider, Executive Director
Matt Schlapp, Chairman
American Conservative Union

George David Banks, Executive Vice President
American Council for Capital Formation

Sean Noble, President
American Encore

Tom Pyle, President
American Energy Alliance

Coley Jackson, President
Americans for Competitive Enterprise

Peter J. Thomas, Chairman
Americans for Constitutional Liberty

Richard Manning, President
Americans for Limited Government

Grover Norquist, President
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Marita Noon, Executive Director
Citizens' Alliance for Responsible Energy (CARE)

Tom Brinkman Jr., Chairman
Coalition Opposed to Additional Spending and Taxes (COAST)

Myron Ebell, Director, Center for Energy and Environment
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Dan Caldwell, Vice President for Political and Legislative Action
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Tom Schatz, President
Council for Citizens Against Government Waste
Craig Richardson, Executive Director  
Energy & Environment Legal Institute (E&E Legal)

Marita Noon, Executive Director  
Energy Makes America Great

Dick Ribbentrop, Senior Vice President, Policy  
Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce

Wayne T. Brough, Ph.D., Chief Economist and VP for Research  
FreedomWorks

George Landrith, President  
Frontiers of Freedom

Andrew Clark, President  
Generation Opportunity

Michael A. Needham, Chief Executive Officer  
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Andrew Langer, President  
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National Federation of Republican Assemblies

Pete Sepp, President  
National Taxpayers Union

David Williams, President  
Taxpayers Protection Alliance
Judson Phillips, Founder
Tea Party Nation

Brooke Rollins, President
Texas Public Policy Foundation