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Businesses Urge Congress to Enact Bill with Meaningful Provisions for Clean Energy

Washington, DC – Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) President Lisa Jacobson sent a letter to Members of Congress today to support clean energy provisions in legislation to be negotiated during a House-Senate energy bill conference. For a full copy of the letter, go [here](#). In a statement following the release of the letter Jacobson said,

“BCSE is encouraged by congressional action to move forward with a House-Senate conference on S.2012, the Energy Policy Modernization Act, and we look forward to working with Congress in the coming weeks to finalize legislation before the end of the year with meaningful provisions for clean energy. As the House and Senate iron out the different versions of their bills we encourage Congress to build upon the bipartisan provisions that have been negotiated over the past months and years.”

Jacobson called on Congress to enact provisions aimed at modernizing the electric grid to ensure that it is cleaner and more efficient, including provisions to:

improve infrastructure and streamlining approval processes for clean energy projects, such as the hydropower licensing improvements and provisions to streamline permitting of renewable energy projects on federal lands; Energy efficiency provisions such as the Senate-passed Sensible Accounting and Valuation (SAVE) Act, which would help finance energy efficient homes and businesses; the Senate-passed energy code provisions which would maintain the U.S. Department of Energy’s ability to provide technical support to state and local efforts to adopt building energy codes; Provisions to increase Federal energy efficiency through the use of Energy Savings Performance Contracts, which will facilitate more use of these contracting vehicles to save the government money and energy without any upfront cost to taxpayers; Provisions to establish a federal smart buildings program; provisions in the Senate bill to assist state and local grid modernization efforts, and Senate-passed provisions to focus on research development and deployment of energy storage.

“In addition,” Jacobson said, “in order to maintain a diverse portfolio of beneficial clean energy technologies the Council encourages Congress to consider a tax title to the energy bill to address the needs of the clean energy tax technologies that were left out of the 2015 end of year tax and spending bills and to formulate and enact the stable, long-term tax policy framework that will support the deployment and use of clean energy technologies in a meaningful way.”

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The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) is a coalition of companies and trade associations from the energy efficiency, natural gas and renewable energy sectors, and also includes independent electric power producers, investor-owned utilities, public power and commercial end-users. Established in 1992, the Council advocates for policies that expand the use of commercially-available clean energy technologies, products and services. For more information on the Council, please visit: www.bcse.org and download [Sustainable Energy in America Factbook](#) 2016 edition for the latest industry information.