



**Testimony of Lisa Jacobson, President, Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE)
to be presented at the**

**Office of the U.S. Trade Representative's Public Hearing on Proposed Tariffs for 4th List of Chinese Goods Pursuant to
Section 301: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation**

**Docket Number USTR 2019-0004-0001
June 18, 2019**

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) is a broad coalition of companies and trade associations representing the energy efficiency, natural gas and renewable energy sectors. Founded in 1992, the Council advocates for policies that expand the use of commercially available clean energy technologies, products and services. Its membership includes project developers, industrial manufacturers, equipment and technology providers, independent electric power producers, investor-owned utilities, public power and energy and environmental service providers.

The BCSE is also home to the Clean Energy Business Network (CEBN), which represents small- and medium-size American businesses providing clean energy technologies and services. Together, BCSE and CEBN represent a broad range of the clean energy economy, from Fortune 200 companies to small businesses working in all 50 states and over 350 Congressional districts.

Please note that as a broad industry coalition, the views presented in this testimony do not necessarily reflect the individual views of each member.

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy testifies before you today to oppose the proposed modification of action of another tariff of up to 25 percent on the 4th tranche of imports from China valued at \$300 billion.

The existing tariffs are already negatively affecting American companies, and the proposed tariffs will further exacerbate these negative impacts. Those impacted include American companies with energy interests, including technology and service providers in the energy efficiency, energy storage, demand response, information technology, manufacturing, natural gas, renewable energy and sustainable transportation sectors. These clean energy industries support over three million jobs in the U.S. today and are poised for significant growth in the years ahead, provided they have stable market conditions.

The existing tariffs on imports from China are affecting a range of raw materials, components and products that are important to domestic clean energy industries. Many of these American clean energy companies face intense competition from abroad, and the prospect of paying up to 25 percent more for components puts U.S. industry at a competitive disadvantage. Further, some U.S. clean energy technology sectors are relatively new, with developing supply chains, and utilize components that cannot be procured from anywhere but China at this time.

Higher priced components for energy systems and infrastructure will add market barriers to advanced natural gas, energy efficiency, and renewable energy, negatively impact U.S. jobs, and harm US competitiveness in our growing international markets.

While we strongly oppose the pending action, should it move forward, we request that USTR establish an exclusion process for this proposed 4th tranche of tariffs. Establishing an exclusion process for these affected clean energy industries to share important market impacts and request remedies is paramount to U.S. competitiveness, job creation and the continued growth of domestic energy industries.

In closing, the Council would like to highlight that it is also a signatory to a joint energy industry letter, submitted to the public record on June 17, 2019, which also expresses its opposition to the use and continued escalation of China tariffs and its detriment to American energy companies.

The Council thanks the Committee and USTR for its leadership in addressing China's unfair trade practices and look forward to working with you to identify remedies other than the imposition of tariffs to correct these practices.

We are ready to work with the Administration to ensure that the U.S. remains the leader in advanced energy technologies and that the technologies of the future are manufactured in America.

Thank you.

Lisa Jacobson
President
Business Council for Sustainable Energy