July 31, 2008

Matt Clouse
Acting Branch Chief
US EPA Headquarters
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW MC 6202J
Ariel Rios Building
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Clouse:

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) appreciates the Environmental Protection Agency’s outreach regarding its rule-making associated with the industrial energy provisions within the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, including the opportunity to meet with EPA staff several months ago.

BCSE is a broad-based coalition that represents companies and trade associations in the energy efficiency, renewable energy and natural gas industries. Members include power developers, equipment manufacturers, independent generators, retailers, green power marketers, and gas and electric utilities, as well as several of the primary trade associations in the renewable energy, energy efficiency and natural gas industries.

The Council and its members have been working consistently with state, federal and international policymakers on market-based measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions since its inception in the early 1990s. The coalition supports the establishment of market-based programs for clean energy technology innovation and deployment, economic efficiency and enhanced energy security. Of note, as a diverse business coalition, not all BCSE members support or endorse the following comments.

First, with respect to the scope of coverage, BCSE favors acknowledging that EISA’s Section 451 states that a “project” to be included in the Waste Energy Recovery Registry and eligible for the grant program is “a recoverable waste energy project or a combined heat and power project.” We further acknowledge the full set of definitions as written in the first of the three sections called for to be inserted after part D of Title III of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act. This then gives the broad definition of recoverable waste energy as reported by the framers of the language. We commend that the definition(s) include both combined heat and power (CHP) projects as well as what is often commonly referred to as “recoverable waste energy” projects. We feel that these are actually two manifestations of the same resource. Conventional waste energy projects capture energy wasted in existing operations, while new CHP projects recover energy that is currently wasted in conventional separate heat and power projects.

BCSE also suggests that allowable conventional waste energy include projects defined in Sec. 371.DEFINITIONS. (7) & (8) such as:

- Thermal recovery from processes such as coke ovens, boilers, furnaces, chemical reactors, ovens and dryers;
- Pressure recovery from replacement of pressure reducing valves with energy recovery Devices;
• Combined Heat and Power that simultaneously and efficiently produces useful thermal energy and electricity

Avoiding waste energy in new projects would include CHP systems where greater efficiency is achieved by harnessing heat energy waste that does occur from separately produced heat and power.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these clarifying comments. Should you have questions please contact Ruth McCormick with the BCSE at 202-785-0507 or by e-mail at rmccormick@bcse.org.

Sincerely,

Lisa Jacobson
Executive Director