

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 15, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steny H. Hoyer
Majority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Hoyer:

We write today regarding the devastating impacts of COVID-19 on jobs in the clean energy industry. Your leadership has steered our nation through this unprecedented health emergency, and, as Congress debates legislation to respond to the economic impacts of the pandemic, we urge you to ensure that this crucial sector is given economic relief.

The clean energy industry, which includes renewable energy, clean vehicles, energy efficiency, and energy storage, is an integral and broad part of the American economy. Before the current crisis, this sector employed 3.4 million people, two thirds of whom worked at companies with less than 20 employees. These were blue-collar and white-collar jobs in every state of the country. Over the past five years, this sector grew at a rate that is 70% higher than the national average, particularly in states such as California, Florida, Georgia, Texas, Michigan, North Carolina, and Ohio.

However, the current crisis has decimated the clean energy industry. We are particularly alarmed at a recent analysis showing that the industry has already lost 594,300 jobs through April, and is on a path to lose additional jobs by the end of June.¹ Clean energy jobs are being lost at a rate faster than the national average, revealing COVID-19's disproportionate impact on this vulnerable industry.

Your leadership has provided relief to millions of Americans through the enactment of the Paycheck Protection Program, direct payments to many Americans, an expansion of our nation's safety net, free coronavirus testing, and expanding lending authority for the Federal Reserve and the Department of the Treasury (Treasury). Unfortunately, the industries that make up the clean energy sector rely on capital-intensive projects that require significant upfront costs. Many of these projects are in limbo due to constrained financing and supply chains, and many companies fear imminent cancellations. Others are on pause in order to abide by social distancing

¹ Jordan, P. (2020, May 13). Clean Energy Employment Initial Impacts from the COVID-19 Economic Crisis. *[BW] Research Partnership*.

requirements or due to delays in permitting because of COVID-19. This sector is also facing tax credit deadlines and reductions, which are forcing the industry to restrict investment instead of quickly rehiring laid-off workers.

To put it simply, this is a project pipeline problem – if these companies do not have projects to work on, they cannot keep their workers employed. We urge you to enact a series of policies that will provide relief and certainty to this sector. This includes providing relief and certainty for constrained tax equity financing by allowing tax credits to be received as a direct payment. Additionally, by delaying the phasedown of existing renewable energy tax incentives, we can ensure that we actually see the benefits of policies and provide more certainty.

You have fought for the clean energy industry time and time again, and your work has ensured that this industry has become a cornerstone of the American economy. Now this industry needs economic relief, and Congress must act soon. Investments in clean energy pay back dividends because of the breadth and geography that are impacted – either job losses will devastate the communities we represent, or economic relief for this sector will help them weather this crisis.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress



Mike Levin
Member of Congress

/s/

Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress

/s/

Cindy Axne
Member of Congress

/s/

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

/s/

Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress

/s/

Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress

/s/

Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress

/s/

Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress

/s/

Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

/s/

Anthony G. Brown
Member of Congress

/s/
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress

/s/
Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress

/s/
G. K. Butterfield
Member of Congress

/s/
Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress

/s/
Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress

/s/
André Carson
Member of Congress

/s/
Ed Case
Member of Congress

/s/
Sean Casten
Member of Congress

/s/
Kathy Castor
Member of Congress

/s/
Judy Chu
Member of Congress

/s/
David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

/s/
Gil R. Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress

/s/
Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress

/s/
Yvette D. Clark
Member of Congress

/s/
Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress

/s/
Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress

/s/
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress

/s/
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress

/s/
Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress

/s/
J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress

/s/
Jim Costa
Member of Congress

/s/
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

/s/
TJ Cox
Member of Congress

/s/
Angie Craig
Member of Congress

/s/
Charlie Crist
Member of Congress

/s/
Jason Crow
Member of Congress

/s/
Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress

/s/
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

/s/
Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress

/s/
Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress

/s/
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress

/s/
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress

/s/
Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

/s/
Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

/s/
Abby Finkenauer
Member of Congress

/s/
Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress

/s/
Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress

/s/
Deb Haaland
Member of Congress

/s/
Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress

/s/
Jim Himes
Member of Congress

/s/
Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress

/s/
Ted Deutch
Member of Congress

/s/
Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress

/s/
Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

/s/
Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress

/s/
Jesús G. “Chuy” Garcia
Member of Congress

/s/
Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress

/s/
Josh Harder
Member of Congress

/s/
Denny Heck
Member of Congress

/s/
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress

/s/
Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress

/s/
Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

/s/
Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress

/s/
Dwight Evans
Member of Congress

/s/
Bill Foster
Member of Congress

/s/
Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress

/s/
Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

/s/
Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress

/s/
Brian Higgins
Member of Congress

/s/
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

/s/
Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

/s/
William R. Keating
Member of Congress

/s/
Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress

/s/
Ron Kind
Member of Congress

/s/
Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress

/s/
John B. Larson
Member of Congress

/s/
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

/s/
Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress

/s/
Ben Ray Luján
Member of Congress

/s/
Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

/s/
Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress

/s/
Joseph P. Kennedy, III
Member of Congress

/s/
Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress

/s/
Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress

/s/
James R. Langevin
Member of Congress

/s/
Brenda L. Lawrence
Member of Congress

/s/
Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress

/s/
Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress

/s/
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress

/s/
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress

/s/
Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress

/s/
Ro Khanna
Member of Congress

/s/
Andy Kim
Member of Congress

/s/
Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress

/s/
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress

/s/
Susie Lee
Member of Congress

/s/
Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress

/s/
Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress

/s/
Tom Malinowski
Member of Congress

/s/
Betty McCollum
Member of Congress

/s/
A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress

/s/
Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress

/s/
Seth Moulton
Member of Congress

/s/
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress

/s/
Donald Norcross
Member of Congress

/s/
Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress

/s/
Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

/s/
Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

/s/
Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress

/s/
Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

/s/
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

/s/
Grace Meng
Member of Congress

/s/
Debbie Mucarsel-Powell
Member of Congress

/s/
Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress

/s/
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

/s/
Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress

/s/
Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress

/s/
Mark Pocan
Member of Congress

/s/
David Price
Member of Congress

/s/
Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress

/s/
Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress

/s/
Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress

/s/
Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress

/s/
Joe Neguse
Member of Congress

/s/
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress

/s/
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

/s/
Scott Peters
Member of Congress

/s/
Katie Porter
Member of Congress

/s/
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

/s/
Harley Rouda
Member of Congress

/s/
Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

/s/
C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress

/s/
Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress

/s/
Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Member of Congress

/s/
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress

/s/
John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress

/s/
Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress

/s/
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

/s/
Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress

/s/
Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress

/s/
Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress

/s/
Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress

/s/
Robert C. “Bobby” Scott
Member of Congress

/s/
David Scott
Member of Congress

/s/
José E. Serrano
Member of Congress

/s/
Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress

/s/
Donna E. Shalala
Member of Congress

/s/
Albio Sires
Member of Congress

/s/
Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress

/s/
Adam Smith
Member of Congress

/s/
Darren Soto
Member of Congress

/s/
Abigail D. Spanberger
Member of Congress

/s/
Jackie Speier
Member of Congress

/s/
Greg Stanton
Member of Congress

/s/
Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress

/s/
Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress

/s/
Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress

/s/
Mark Takano
Member of Congress

/s/
Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress

/s/
Dina Titus
Member of Congress

/s/
Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress

/s/
Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress

/s/
Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress

/s/
Lori Trahan
Member of Congress

/s/
David Trone
Member of Congress

/s/
Lauren Underwood
Member of Congress

/s/
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress

/s/
Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

/s/
Maxine Waters
Member of Congress

/s/
Peter Welch
Member of Congress

/s/
Jennifer Wexton
Member of Congress

/s/
Susan Wild
Member of Congress

/s/
John Yarmuth
Member of Congress

/s/
Karen Bass
Member of Congress

/s/
Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress

/s/
Brad Sherman
Member of Congress

/s/
Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress

/s/
Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress