

November 2, 2009

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to highlight the need for properly designed tax incentives and federal support for clean energy manufacturing that maximize job creation here in the United States rather than abroad. I am deeply concerned that if not done properly, our efforts to rejuvenate our manufacturing base in this country could be unseated by subsidized imports from countries seeking to capitalize on new demand for clean energy products in the United States, such as wind turbines and solar panels.

I was shocked to learn of the massive 36,000-acre West Texas wind farm development that will rely solely on wind turbines manufactured in China. The developer will be seeking federal tax credits and support from the Stimulus package. According to an October 30, 2009, article in the *Wall Street Journal*, “the project should create 2,800 jobs – of which 15% would be in the U.S. The rest would flow to China, where Shenyang employs 800 people.” The article is attached for you to review.

This story is a clear sign that our current approach to building a new sustainable clean energy manufacturing base in this country is completely inadequate. The American people support investments in infrastructure and clean energy that will pave the way to a new economy and the creation of American jobs. Furthermore, 84 percent of Americans backed a strong Buy America requirement in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. With this in mind, it is an outrage to read that our efforts to create jobs here at home are instead resulting in the creation of jobs in China and elsewhere. Put simply, if this project seeks federal assistance, the wind turbines should be manufactured in the United States.

Aggressive steps must be taken if we are to become the world leader in clean energy manufacturing. First, we need to provide access to capital so that companies are able to transform their existing operations and build new plants to meet the demand for clean renewable energy projects. Second, it is essential that we continue to enact and strictly enforce strong domestic sourcing requirements for all federal infrastructure investments, including clean energy. Finally, to the fullest extent possible, we should ensure that domestic content is used for major inputs when tax credits are used to incentivize the production of wind, solar, and other clean renewable energy projects.

I applaud your commitment to the advancement of renewable energy in this country, which has the potential to put millions of Americans back to work in well-paying manufacturing jobs. However, I am deeply concerned that without the proper approach, our efforts will fail before they even get started and countries such as China will reap the benefits.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott N. Paul". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scott" and last name "Paul" clearly distinguishable.

Scott N. Paul  
Executive Director

CC: Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid  
Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell  
House Speaker Nancy Pelosi  
House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer  
House Republican Leader John Boehner