

[Company Letterhead]

Dear Senator/Congressman_____

As you know, we own and operate____, located in _____. Our facilities generate ___MWh's of clean, renewable energy. We divert ___ tons of organic material, thus avoiding ___ tons of carbon. We provide ___ jobs, and generate \$____ for the local economy.

Despite the enormous potential of biomass meeting America's long-term renewable energy needs, the industry is under considerable threat due to the lack of fairness in the current tax code. Specifically, unlike other renewable such as wind and geothermal, which benefit from a 10 year term, existing biomass facilities—which are the “backbone” of the Nation's renewable energy supply—only received 5 years. Unfortunately, these credits expire on December 31, 2009, unless extended by Congress. Continued production tax credits are a lifeline to us and are vitally important to our continued survival. For that reason, we urge your co-sponsorship of H.R. 2528, sponsored by Congressman Meek, and S.870, sponsored by Senator Lincoln, both of which are designed to provide an additional 5 years of tax credits to the biomass industry.

Second, the 2004 legislation provided biomass with only half the tax credit available to wind and other renewable. There is no legitimate public policy reason for this disparate treatment. To the contrary, it violates basic principles of technology neutrality, and places Congress in the position of picking “winners and losers” among renewable technologies who often compete for long-term power purchase agreements. This is especially true at our existing plant(s) as we attempt to compete with other renewable generation technologies in the developing renewable portfolio standards in the state where we do business. Accordingly, we urge your co-sponsorship of H.R. 2626, sponsored by Congressman Meek, and S.1030, sponsored by Senator Wyden, both of which are designed to provide tax parity.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter, and look forward to your response.