

November 29, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-221 United States Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
H-232 United States Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-230 United States Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
H-204 United States Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Allow the Volumetric Ethanol Excise Tax Credit to Expire**

Dear Congressional Leaders:

The undersigned diverse group of business associations, hunger and development organizations, taxpayer advocates, agricultural groups, religious organizations, environmental groups, budget hawks, and public interest organizations urge you to allow the refundable Volumetric Ethanol Excise Tax Credit (VEETC) to sunset this year.

In particular, Congress has the opportunity to end the \$6 billion a year subsidy to gasoline refiners who blend corn ethanol into gasoline. At a time of spiraling deficits, we do not believe Congress should continue subsidizing gasoline refiners for something that they are already required to do by the Renewable Fuels Standard.

Experts like the Congressional Budget Office and the Government Accountability Office have concluded that the subsidy is no longer necessary, and leading economists agree that ending it would have little impact on ethanol production, prices or jobs.

Letting the VEETC expire will help control deficit spending without in any way hindering the development of advanced biofuels, which can help us meet our energy, environmental and food security needs in a fiscally responsible manner.

Sincerely,

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| ActionAid US                                      | League of Conservation Voters  |
| Africa Action                                     | Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns   |
| Africa Faith and Justice Network                  | Milk Producers Council   |
| American Bakers Association                       | Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate  |
| American Conservative Union                       | MoveOn.org Political Action  |
| American Meat Institute                           | National Audubon Society   |
| American Frozen Food Institute                    | National Catholic Rural Life Conference  |
| California Dairies, Inc.                          | National Chicken Council   |
| California Dairy Campaign                         | National Council of Chain Restaurants  |
| Center for Biological Diversity                   | National Meat Association  |
| Center for Food Safety                            | National Taxpayers Union   |
| Clean Air Task Force                              | National Turkey Federation   |
| Clean Water Action                                | National Wildlife Federation   |
| Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach         | Natural Resources Defense Council  |
| Competitive Enterprise Institute                  | NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice<br>Lobby                           |
| Dairy Producers of New Mexico                     | Oregon Dairy Farmers Association   |
| Dairy Producers of Utah                           | Oxfam America  |
| Earth Day Network                                 | PLANT (Partners for the Land and Agricultural<br>Needs of Traditional Peoples) |
| Environment America                               | Pew Environment Group  |
| Environmental Working Group                       | Public Citizen   |
| Foreign Policy in Focus                           | Safe Climate Campaign  |
| FreedomWorks                                      | Sierra Club  |
| Friends of the Earth                              | Snack Food Association   |
| Grocery Manufacturers Association                 | Taxpayers for Common Sense   |
| Heartland Institute                               | Union of Concerned Scientists  |
| Idaho Dairymen's Association                      | Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth                                      |
| International Center for Technology<br>Assessment | Washington Cattle Feeders Association  |
| International Dairy Foods Association             | Washington State Dairy Federation  |
| KyotoUSA  | World Wildlife Fund  |
| Leadership Conference of Women Religious          |  |

CC: United States House of Representatives and United States Senate