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Call to Action | November 10, 2010

Hello FIT Coalition Friends:

In early October, US Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) introduced a bill that would remove federal preemption issues around states' authority to enact Feed-In Tariffs (FITs). The bill has 6 Senators as original co-sponsors, and the FIT Coalition is taking the lead to get more co-sponsors. We have drafted a letter of support seeking additional co-sponsors for the legislation (see the letter below). A version of this letter will go to every US Senator who has not already signed on as a co-sponsor.

The "Let the States Innovate on Sustainable Energy Act of 2010," facilitates the pursuit of state-level FIT programs for renewable energy. Please reply to this email with your name, title, organization / company name, address, and phone number if you would like your name and organization listed as a co-signer to this letter; OR email the details to Action@FITCoalition.com. We are collecting names through this Friday, November 12th. If you have already emailed sign-on details, thank you.

While some have questioned the need for this legislation with the recent Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) ruling on state-level FIT pricing (see website for more details), the FIT Coalition believes the Sanders bill is still required for three reasons:

- 1. Many states have avoided costs that are currently too low to allow their renewable energy resource quality to produce sufficient FIT pricing,
- 2. Not all states use Renewable Energy Credits (RECs).
- Some Investor-Owned Utilities may still try to litigate FIT pricing regardless of the FERC ruling.

Additionally, the Sanders bill provides significant awareness-building on Capitol Hill that will help accelerate the timeline for a national FIT like the one introduced by Congressman Inslee this year.

Please forward this email to additional organizations that might want to sign on, and thank you for your help in advancing the right policies for renewable energy now. Please email <a href="mailto:Action@FITCoalition.com">Action@FITCoalition.com</a> with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mircalla Wozniak FIT Coalition

Draft Letter:

November 2010

Re: Support for the "Let the States Innovate on Sustainable Energy Act of 2010" (S.3923)

Dear Senator:

The below cosigners request that you consider co-sponsoring the "Let the States Innovate on Sustainable Energy Act of 2010." This much needed legislation will allow states to move

## **Upcoming Events**

November 11, 2010

# Applied Solutions Conference | Boulder, CO

Craig Lewis, Executive Director of the FIT Coalition, will be speaking on Feed-In Tariffs (FITs), and their ability at scaling local and cost-effective renewable energy. His session begins at 3:15 p.m. on Thursday, November 11th.

November 15, 2010

Community and Small Wind Energy Conference 2010 - Midwest Region | St. Paul, MN

Craig Lewis, Executive Director of the FIT Coalition, will be presenting on the benefits of Feed-In Tariffs on the 1st day of this two day conference. His session is on Monday, November 15 at 2 p.m.

### **About The FIT Coalition**

Feed-In Tariffs are the most effective, proven policy for bringing massive amounts of clean, renewable energy online. By unleashing the Wholesale Distributed Generation market segment, Feed-In Tariffs have driven the majority of all renewable energy that has been deployed in the world and are responsible for almost 90% of the solar capacity brought online in 2009. The FIT Coalition is focused on implementing Feed-In Tariffs and other global best practices to propel clean energy production in the United States. We are a non-partisan organization whose mission is to implement policies that will accelerate the deployment of cost-effective clean energy. The FIT Coalition believes the right policies will result in a timely

ahead with Feed-In Tariff (FIT) policies if they choose to do so. States and local governments have always had the right to pursue innovative policies, and this "states rights" legislation allows states to expand clean, renewable energy markets by removing federal barriers that exist today. This vital legislation needs you as a co-sponsor.

Feed-In Tariffs (FITs) are empirically proven to be the most effective policy mechanism for bringing significant amounts of clean, renewable energy online in a cost-effective and timely manner. Successful FIT policies provide fixed prices and long-term contracts for renewable energy generators to sell their energy to utilities. The success of FITs are undeniable as they have driven the majority of all clean energy that has been deployed in the world and are responsible for almost 90% of the solar capacity brought online in 2009. FITs benefit every segment of the clean energy industry; including solar, wind, biomass and geothermal; and many FIT programs are forward thinking by allowing the inclusion of new technologies as they emerge in a commercially viable form. The transparency and certainty provided by FITs is absolutely crucial in realizing the potential of the renewable energy industry in the United States.

Statewide FIT programs will be particularly useful in spurring development in the Wholesale Distributed Generation (WDG) market segment. WDG projects can be up to 20 megawatts (MW) in size and they connect to the grid near cities and other places where electricity is actually used and of the highest value. Although WDG projects are considered to be small from a utility perspective, 20 MW powers the peak requirements of roughly 20,000 homes. "Wholesale" indicates that all of the energy produced is sold to the utility rather than used on site.

Supporting this fledgling market segment will be crucial for the American economy. A recent UC Berkeley study showed that if California implements the Renewable Energy & Economic Stimulus Act (REESA), which is a statewide WDG FIT proposal for California, the State would not only reach its 33%-by-2020 renewable energy goal on schedule, but also California would create hundreds of thousands more jobs, attract tens of billions more in private investment, and collect billions more in tax revenue.

This legislation would remove federal preemption issues around states authority to enact FITs, thus allowing states to pursue programs that unleash the WDG market segment and create valuable, clean energy jobs. Further, in these difficult times, this legislation would help states and localities create these jobs, without requiring new federal spending.

Finally, the "Let the States Innovate on Sustainable Energy Act of 2010" is almost identical to Section 102 of the 2009 Waxman-Markey package that was passed by the House of Representatives. Thus we are confident that with you as a co-sponsor, this critical legislation will be one step closer to passage through Congress.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Craig Lewis
FIT Coalition, Executive Director

transition to clean energy while yielding tremendous economic benefits, including new job creation, increased tax revenue, and the establishment of an economic foundation that will drive growth for decades. The FIT Coalition is active at the national, state, and local levels.

#### **Support the FIT Coalition**

The FIT Coalition is actively seeking financial backing in order to strengthen our efforts at both the state and federal level.

If you or your organization is interested in supporting the FIT Coalition, please contact us at <a href="mailto:development@fitcoalition.com">development@fitcoalition.com</a>.

Additionally, we welcome invitations to any forums or events where we can promote the benefits of Feed-In Tariffs to new audiences.

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