

SOLUTIONS TO **WARMING WINTERS**

Thank you for meeting with **Protect Our Winters Action Fund**. We call on you to consider the following actions to ensure a prosperous future for the \$887 billion-dollar outdoor recreation economy¹:

INVESTING IN A CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY

- Like many industries, the clean energy economy has been greatly impacted from COVID19, reporting job losses of nearly 600,000, erasing more than double the past three years of employment growth.² While the Treasury Department's work to extend safe harbor, commence construction, and place in service deadlines for one year helps wind developers access the production tax credit, the clean energy industry, which grew at a rate of 70% higher than the national average, is still in need of certainty to rebuild the project pipeline and hire workers. To ensure companies can continue moving projects forward and prevent further job loss:
 - ✓ **Institute a temporary direct pay program** to deliver payments directly to clean energy developers and suppliers in the form of grants or refundable credits, resulting in an immediate cash infusion for clean energy companies and getting them back to work in the near term.
 - ✓ **Delay the phase down or expiration of existing clean energy tax incentives** for individuals and businesses by extending and providing additional flexibility for the investment tax credit and production tax credit and expand eligibility to energy storage projects to allow for the policy effect that Congress intended in passing these incentives. For example, passage of the Renewable Energy Extension Act (H.R. 3961/S. 2289), which has bipartisan support in the House, would provide certainty.
- Additionally, we call on Congress to ensure that the clean transportation sector not only recover but continue to grow and keep workers employed. To spur further production:
 - ✓ **Invest in clean cars and electric vehicle infrastructure** to immediately create careers expanding the nation's electric vehicle charging network and consider nationwide vehicle trade-in and/or rebate programs to rebuild consumer demand for electric vehicle manufacturing while putting cleaner, more efficient cars on our roads by **lifting the cap on the tax credit for EVs**. For example, passage of the Driving America Forward Act (H.R. 2256 and S.1094), which has bipartisan support in the Senate would both expand the tax credit and lift the cap of vehicles eligible per manufacturer.

REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM PUBLIC LANDS

- Support public land protection that directly reduces fossil fuel emissions, including ensuring protection of the Arctic Refuge from drilling and innovative bills including the Colorado Outdoor Recreation Economy Act which not only safeguards existing outdoor recreation opportunities but limits future oil and gas development while promoting methane recapture.
 - ✓ House: **Co-Sponsor H.R. 5435**, the American Public Lands and Waters Climate Solutions Act.

Founded in 2018 as a sister organization to Protect Our Winters, the POW Action Fund works to make action on climate change a top policy priority for the outdoor sports community. By connecting the dots between climate change and its impact on the outdoors, the POW Action Fund turns the outdoor community's shared passion for adventuring in wild places into the political will needed to drive positive action on climate change.

¹ OIA: https://outdoorindustry.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/OIA_RecEconomy_FINAL_Single.pdf

² E2: <https://e2.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Clean-Energy-Jobs-April-COVID-19-Memo-FINAL.pdf>