



Industrial Energy Consumers of America

The Voice of the Industrial Energy Consumers

1155 15th Street, NW, Suite 500 • Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone 202-223-1661 • Fax 202-530-0659 • www.ieca-us.org

February 11, 2009

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate

Re: H.R.1 the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 – Will Halt Investment in Energy Efficiency by the Manufacturing Sector – Impacting Competitiveness and Jobs

On behalf of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) we request that the manufacturing sector be exempt from the provision in H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 that would provide a financial incentive to states to decouple utility revenues from the volume of electricity and natural gas that they sell to the manufacturing sector - effectively allowing them to collect the same revenue while selling less electricity and natural gas.

Decoupling utility revenue from the volume they sell is a direct disincentive for manufacturers to implement energy efficiency projects that improve competitiveness, maintain jobs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Decoupling means if we reduce our electricity and natural gas consumption we will not see a reduction in the cost.

For many manufacturers, the cost of electricity and natural gas is significant and can determine whether they are competitive in global markets. We urge you to not pass legislation that increases electricity and natural gas costs and put more jobs at risk.

IECA strongly supports energy efficiency across all sectors of the economy and look forward to working with you to increase energy efficiency and to increase manufacturing competitiveness, exports and jobs.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Cicio
President

Cc:
US Senate
US House of Representatives