December 10, 2019

The Honorable Richard Neal
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Thompson
Chairman
Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Neal and Thompson:

As members of the Alliance to Save Energy’s 50x50 Commission on U.S. Transportation Sector Efficiency, a diverse coalition of industry, business association, and public interest organizations that have affirmed an assertive and transformational vision to create a more efficient transportation, we would like to commend your work on the GREEN Act and thank you for your continued commitment to improving energy efficiency in the transportation sector. We especially thank you for including several key provisions, such as expanding the electric vehicle (EV) tax credit, extending and updating the credit for qualified fuel cell motor vehicles and the alternative fuel vehicle refueling and excise tax credit, and creating a credit for used plug-in electric vehicles and zero-emission commercial vehicles and buses. We urge your continued support for these provisions as Congress works toward a year-end legislative package.

As you know, EVs benefit economic growth, a cleaner environment, energy security, jobs, and overall global competitiveness. Existing federal incentives have helped the U.S. EV market grow – in 2018, experiencing an 86% year-over-year growth in sales – but there are fewer than 1.2 million EVs on the road today, making up less than 2% market share. EVs present benefits to consumers through a more cost-effective, consistent, and clean driving experience and the EV tax credit is critical to enabling more Americans to be able to access these advantages by offsetting high upfront costs.

Additionally, providing a greater incentive to invest in charging and fueling equipment for electric vehicles is key to robust EV deployment nationwide. We appreciate the extension and update of the alternative fuel vehicle refueling property credit, which will help businesses and homeowners with the cost of installing advanced vehicle fueling infrastructure.

Another key to reducing energy waste in transportation and promoting American innovation is the facilitation of more efficient transportation options such as transit. Public transportation is often the most efficient technology to move people and goods to their destinations. Ensuring these systems are strong, effective, and adaptable to new development and needs is critical to enabling a more efficient transportation system, and we applaud the creation of a manufacturer credit for the sale of heavy, zero-emission commercial vehicles and buses in the GREEN Act.
Additionally, our coalition has affirmed the value of alternative fuels that enable energy-efficient outcomes, such as the use of renewable natural gas in highly efficient heavy-duty engines and in uses for transit, and therefore support the extension of the $0.50 cent credit for alternative fuels, including electricity.

These incentives play a critical role in advancing new, energy-efficient technologies in the transportation sector, keeping the U.S at the forefront of innovation while promoting cost-effective options and access to electric vehicles. We urge you to move forward with these provisions and thank you for your continued dedication to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Alliance to Save Energy
APTA
Copper Development Association
Electrify America
IBEW
National Grid
Proterra
Schneider Electric
Seattle City Light
SMUD