



## NEWS RELEASE

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**Headline: "Industrial Energy Consumers of America Urges President Obama and Congress to Use Investment-Based Incentives – Not Mandates to Improve Energy Efficiency in Manufacturing Sector"**

**(Washington D.C.)** The Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) supports President Obama's call to action to increase the domestic supply of economic clean energy sources, create jobs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, we caution the President and Congress on the use of mandates and policies that will increase the price of energy. ***"To us, that is not leadership. Higher energy prices are not needed to become energy secure and less dependent on foreign sources," said Paul Cicio, president of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America. "Mandates and higher energy prices will result in further delays in capital spending and job creation."*** Investment-based incentives on the other hand, because it increases the return on investment of energy efficiency projects, will result in immediate capital spending, jobs and economic recovery.

"We urge the President and the Congress to embrace and enact the policies that are included in the 'Sustainable Manufacturing and Growth Initiative.' This special initiative includes ten policies for ten years with the goal to restore global competitiveness of the manufacturing sector, increase jobs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions," said Paul N. Cicio, president of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA). "We are very excited about the initiative because we are absolutely confident it will provide a needed stimulus to the manufacturing sector that will multiply through the US economy."

The 'Sustainable Manufacturing and Growth Initiative' takes a practical approach by placing an emphasis upon policies that are recognized for accelerating installation of currently available, but more energy efficient technology. "We cannot and should not wait until next generation technology is developed – that could be 10 to 15 years away," said Paul Cicio.

Today's climate of economic uncertainty and the potential for a double dip recession makes companies very cautious about spending capital. For that reason, providing investment-based incentives that invest small amounts of public dollars to leverage significant investment of private sector dollars – encourages companies to open-up their wallets now, and not wait. The top two policies include investment-based incentives and removal of barriers for combined heat and power generation and use of recycled energy.

President Obama and the Congress should take note that when China implemented its stimulus package, their manufacturing sector received a substantial portion of it. As a result, China's economy and exports rebounded quickly and is helping to drive their entire economy. The reverse was true in the US. The US stimulus package included only a couple of hundred million dollars for the manufacturing sector out of nearly \$800 billion total. Even now, China is encouraging Chinese companies to globalize by expanding to key markets around the world and is providing financing up to 30 percent of the investment costs.

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*The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$800 billion in annual sales and with more than 750,000 employees nationwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through research, advocacy, and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets*