Citizens Climate Lobby urges National Legislation for Feed-in Tariffs

Proven success:

1. Feed-in Tariffs (FiTs) in Germany have led to 300,000 new jobs, 55% of the world’s installed solar PV capacity, and 14% of national electricity from renewable sources in 2008.

2. FiTS have proved to be the world’s most effective practice for speeding the adoption of renewable energy technologies, making Germany, Denmark and Spain global leaders.

3. FiTS in Germany have produced 4 times as much new electricity at 1/5 the relative cost compared to Great Britain’s trading of renewable energy credits. Great Britain has just passed legislation mandating FiTs.

What they do:

1. Require electric utilities to buy feed-in renewable energy before non-renewable energy and make infrastructure improvements for delivering it to customers.

2. Pay producers a fair, fixed price per kWh as a tariff, so that producers can make a reasonable profit on their investment.

3. Pass the extra cost of renewable energy directly to the consumer. In Germany, a typical family pays an additional €3 (~$5) per month for renewable electricity.

4. The price paid per kWh to producers varies by renewable energy technology, application, and size.

Advantages:

1. Predictability. The fixed price per kWh enables renewable energy producers to reliably predict their return on investment, making them appealing to investors.

2. Profit. The profit from renewable energy encourages homeowners, farmers, and businesses to become energy producers. This builds market share for U.S. companies, encouraging investment in research and development.

3. Price. The cost to consumers is minimal and is logically added as a benefits charge on all electric utility bills.

4. Urgency. FiTs are more predictable than carbon or renewable energy credits and more readily attract investment capital from many different participants, thereby providing a more certain path to energy security and climate stability.

5. They Work! The International Energy Agency and the UK’s Stern Review have concluded that FiTs are the worlds most efficient and cost-effective policy tool for renewable energy deployment. FiTs create a stable market that developers and investors can literally take to the bank.

References:

Comprehensive list of articles: [http://www.wind-works.org/articles/feed_laws.html](http://www.wind-works.org/articles/feed_laws.html)
Proposed legislation: [http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d110:h.r.06401](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d110:h.r.06401)