

Subject: General Electric public comments on bills S.2087 and S.2088

General Electric appreciates this opportunity to provide you comments regarding bills S.2087 and S.2088.

These bills would temporarily suspend import duties on certain power panels and capacitor panels designed for wind turbine use. GE, as the largest American producer of wind turbines and the second largest wind turbine manufacturer in the world, strongly supports the promotion of wind turbine manufacturing here in the United States. However, GE does not import the products specified and GE will not see any benefit under any such duty suspension.

GE strongly supports a multilateral or plurilateral agreement to eliminate trade barriers on clean energy goods and services. United States negotiators are currently discussing such an agreement with our trading partners. We believe these panels would likely be encompassed under such an agreement. Passage of these bills would therefore constitute a unilateral tariff reduction prior to possible trade negotiations. This could weaken the United States Government's hand in such negotiations and prove detrimental to the overall outcome.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely yours,

Timothy J. Richards

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