**Concord Energy Strategies Applauds Congressman Charles Boustany’s Action Towards Supporting the Proper Application of the Section 179D Deduction for Government Contractors**

 *Concord Energy Strategies Releases this Statement in Response to Congressman Charles Boustany’s* [*Letter*](http://waysandmeans.house.gov/UploadedFiles/Boustany_letter_to_GSA_Redacted.pdf) *to the GSA and Federal Departments about the Potential Abuse of the Energy Efficient Commercial Buildings Deduction*

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| **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**DATE : June 18, 2012 | **Contact:****Dennis Stiger** **dennis@concordenergystrategies.com**  502-384-9078 |

Louisville, KY - Concord Energy Strategies (CES), America’s leading Section 179D energy study provider, strongly supports Ways and Means Subcommittee on Oversight Chairman Charles Boustany, Jr.’s efforts to ensure that the tax deduction entitled Section 179D is not being abused by the General Services Administration (GSA).

The Section 179D deduction is a federal tax deduction that was originally created as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The deduction creates the opportunity for designers of government owned buildings that have either been newly constructed or retrofitted since 12/31/2005 to claim a one-time federal tax deduction worth up to $1.80 per square foot for their work in improving the energy efficiency of government owned properties, above IRS and ASHRAE defined energy efficiency thresholds. The federal deduction received by the designers provides an incentive to invest more in training and design tools to create energy efficient designs as well as promoting the value of energy efficient projects throughout America.

Documentation suggests that the GSA had instituted a policy by which they were demanding kickbacks from designers and contractors equal to 19% of the total deduction available. As a result, Chairman Boustany sent a letter to the GSA and 15 other departments and one agency across the federal government seeking information about the potential abuse of the tax credit. Boustany criticized the potential kickbacks by stating, *“We must ensure that this tax deduction is being used for its intended purpose and not being sold to line some government slush fund.”*

Chairman Boustany’s efforts were successful as the GSA has since rescinded this policy. Additionally, the GSA confirmed that no federal contractors ever took part in the program and no money was ever paid to the GSA and they never received any contracts allowing for this provision.

CES praises Chairman Boustany’s leadership and encourages Washington policy makers to aggressively support efforts to ensure American tax dollars are used responsibly. Dennis Stilger, managing Partner at Concord Energy, said “It is great to see that the policy makers understand the importance of supporting Section 179D for its intended use and benefit.

**About Concord Energy**

Concord Energy Strategies (CES) is America’s leading Section 179D energy study provider. Section 179D was enacted as part of the EPAct of 2005, allowing for up to a $1.80 per square foot federal tax deduction for commercial/municipal projects put in service or retrofitted since January 1, 2006. To qualify for the deduction, the IRS requires an independent third party energy tax study. Designers/ESCO’s are eligible for this federal tax deduction on municipal projects put in service since January 1, 2006. Concord Energy Strategies (CES) conducts the IRS mandated independent energy study of your projects . CES will complete the required certification and documentation required for your firm to qualify for the Section 179D tax deduction. At CES, we are committed to working with our clients to achieve the greatest benefit possible from the Section 179D federal tax deduction. Please visit us at www.concordenergystrategies.com for more information or contact Dennis Stilger at dennis@concordenergystrategies or Paula Pyles

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