Chart of the Week #39
Foregone Tax Revenues from U.S. Federal Renewable Electricity Investment Tax Credits

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Through 2024, the U.S. Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) projects that foregone tax revenues for renewable ITCs will be $47.4 billion of which $46.9 billion will be for solar.
Foregone tax revenues, the U.S. has been providing investment tax credits (ITCs) to various energy-generating initiatives for a long time.

Solar energy has been the primary beneficiary of Congressional ITC policies and legislation. As with all federal tax credits, some ITCs are indefinite, but most are scheduled to lapse if not renewed.

Since 2009 and projected through 2024, the U.S. Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) projects that foregone tax revenues for renewable ITCs will be $47.4 billion of which $46.9 billion will be for solar.

From 2008 to the present, U.S. solar capacity has risen from 540 megawatts to 48,340, or 0.05% to 4.0% of total. In the same period, solar generation rose from 865 thousand megawatt hours to 132,630, or from 0.02% to 3.3% of total.

The U.S. Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) stresses that these are estimates. In addition, the JCT advises that various categories of foregone tax revenues should not be summed due to potential interaction effects. These interaction effects could lead to significant discrepancies in tax revenue loss estimates.

This slide deck is available at: https://eprinc.org/chart-of-the-week/

For more information on this chart, please contact Max Pyziur (maxp@eprinc.org).