Steven Wilburn, CEO FirmGreen, Inc.

On Monday, Congress will take a step towards ending a policy of economic insanity. The House of Representatives is scheduled to take a vote to reauthorize the U.S. Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank.

In late June, a few powerful Members of Congress blocked a fair up or down vote on reauthorizing Ex-Im – forcing it to lapse. Since that time, American companies have been playing second fiddle to international competitors.

Take my company for instance – we make turnkey renewable energy installations for developing countries. For many of the projects we work on, financing from an official export credit agency – like Ex-Im – is a requirement to even bid on a project. Without Ex-Im, we've been forced to source supplies for our projects from countries that still have export credit agencies.

I'm an American who has fought and bled for my country. If I have a choice – I would much rather we are sourcing our materials from U.S. companies and supporting Made-In-America products. But without the Ex-Im Bank, I am forced to either go abroad for my material or lose business. As a business owner, I have to think about my own employees, so reluctantly until we have Ex-Im back, I am having to source goods from abroad for some of these projects.

It's time to end this madness. The Bank supports American jobs and products, pays for itself, and has a history of strong, bipartisan support.

I urge all Members of our Congressional delegation to support the Ex-Im Bank when it comes up for a vote next week.