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Gary L. Ackerman

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May 25, 2010

The Honorable Steven Chu
United States Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Chu,

I write in support of the Champlain Hudson Power Express's loan guarantee application to Department of Energy solicitation No. DE-FOA 0000132. This project would provide significant economic opportunities to New York City and Long Island, would bring about greater competition among energy providers, and would deliver clean and renewable energy to the region.

The Champlain Hudson Power Express is a high-voltage, direct-current power transmission project that will bring 2,000 megawatts of clean and renewable wind and hydroelectric power to New York's downstate region and to southwestern Connecticut. The 370-mile long transmission line will be built completely underwater and underground along railway routes, eliminating the visual impact and adverse environmental issues commonly associated with overhead transmission lines.

For decades, New York City and Long Island residents have endured some of the highest electricity rates in the continental United States. Bringing additional capacity to the region will put downward pressure on energy prices and increase competition and stability in the market. Further, the greater New York Metropolitan area is one of the largest energy consumption markets in the country. As we seek to reduce carbon emissions and transition to a green, sustainable economy, it is essential that clean, renewable energy is brought to this area.

I hope you will give the Champlain Hudson Power Express's application your consideration. If there is any additional information that I can provide, I hope that you will not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Gary L. Ackerman
Member of Congress