

TIMOTHY H. BISHOP
1ST DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND LABOR

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3201

May 26, 2010

306 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3826
FAX: (202) 225-3143

3680 ROUTE 112, SUITE C
CORAM, NY 11727
(631) 696-6500
FAX: (631) 696-4520

www.house.gov/timbishop

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

Re: DOE Solicitation No. DE-FOA 0000132
Loan Guarantee Application of Champlain Hudson Power Express

Dear Secretary Chu,

Long Island has struggled with high electric rates for many years and demand is expected to continue to grow for the foreseeable future. As eastern Long Island's representative in Congress, I would welcome any environmentally responsible project that could provide additional capacity and bring relief to our residential and commercial ratepayers.

The Champlain Hudson Power Express is a high voltage direct current power transmission project that will deliver 2,000 megawatts of renewable energy to New York's downstate region and southwestern Connecticut. Recent economic studies indicate that the project could provide significant rate relief to New York City and Long Island as well as potentially to the entire State of New York.

Because this 370-mile long transmission line will be built completely underwater and underground, there are no visual impacts or condemnation issues often associated with overhead transmission lines. Bringing clean wind and hydro power to our area connects the best source of supply to the immediate and future needs of Long Islanders. This forward-thinking project has the potential to create downward pressure on rates and increase competition and stability in the wholesale market.

Provided that the application meets all program requirements and can demonstrate the ability to comply with all federal and state regulatory and environmental requirements, I strongly encourage you to include the Champlain Hudson Power Express as one of the participants in the DOE loan guarantee program for transmission projects.

I would appreciate it if you could keep my office apprised of the status of your review in advance of any formal determination on this application. I look forward to continuing our work together in support of our mutual objectives for cleaner, more efficient energy sources. Thank you for your attention and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tim Bishop
Member of Congress

cc. Jonathan Silver, Executive Director, Loan Guarantee Program Office