

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 19, 2012

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

Re: DOE PP-362  
Champlain Hudson Power Express

Dear Secretary Chu:

We write to encourage the Department of Energy (DOE) to act promptly in your consideration of the Presidential Permit application for the Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) Project and to convey our strong support of this important project. The CHPE project is a high voltage direct current power transmission project that will play an important role in advancing federal and state "smart grid" and clean energy policies. As you know, this 333-mile, \$2.2 billion privately financed project will link Canadian supplies of hydroelectric and wind energy to the epicenter of demand in New York City generating \$650 million in annual rate payer savings, spurring economic growth and strengthening New York's aging electrical grid.

On June 29, 2011, twenty Members of the New York House Congressional Delegation sent a letter (copy attached) to Governor Cuomo in strong support of this project. Since that time, the project has made significant advances in its state and federal permitting processes. As an example, a Joint Proposal (JP) of Settlement was filed with the New York State Department of Public Service (DPS) earlier this year as part the project's Article VII review. The JP was signed by a broad array of environmental organizations, state agencies, and local governments, including the City of New York.


The CHPE Project will provide critical economic and environmental benefits to New York State at a time when the need for new transmission infrastructure is beyond dispute. This new source of clean power will help meet growing demand, diversify the State's energy portfolio, increase the security of the electric grid within the DOE's identified Mid-Atlantic National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor, and provide a new source of governmental revenue at both the municipal and state level through real property taxes and fees for the use of navigable waterways.

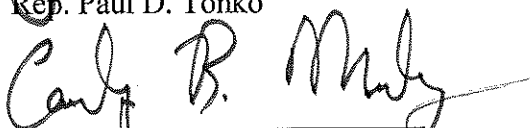
Independent economic studies have shown - and State regulators agree - that the CHPE Project will reduce energy prices for New York families and businesses by more than \$650 million dollars per year, year after year, once the CHPE Project is in service. These savings will create 2,400 new jobs across a wide spectrum of the economy once the project is operational. While under construction, the Champlain Hudson Power Express will create an average of 300 construction jobs over a four year period, with the number topping out at 600 jobs.

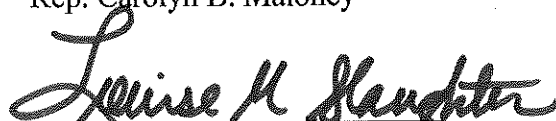
We ask that you move quickly to approve the Presidential permit application for the CHPE transmission line. Your prompt attention in this matter will ensure that this critical piece of our nation's future energy infrastructure moves one step closer to becoming a reality.

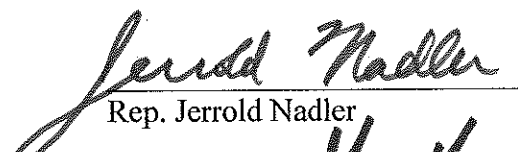
We also request that you keep us apprised of the status of your review in advance of any formal determination. Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important project.

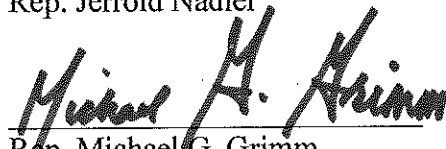
Sincerely,

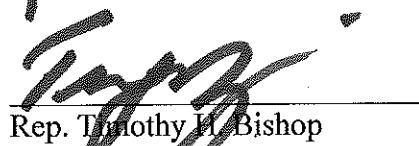
  
Rep. Paul D. Tonko

  
Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney


  
Rep. Louise McIntosh Slaughter

  
Rep. Jerrold Nadler

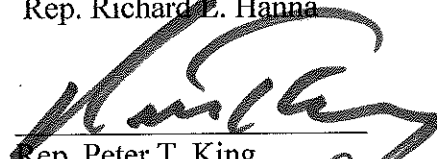
  
Rep. Michael G. Grimm


  
Rep. Timothy H. Bishop

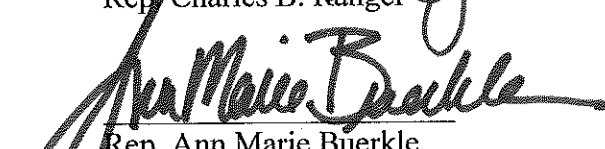
  
Rep. Carolyn McCarthy


  
Rep. Tom Reed


  
Rep. Richard L. Hanna

  
Rep. Peter T. King

  
Rep. Charles B. Rangel

  
Rep. Ann Marie Buerkle

  
Rep. Gary L. Ackerman

  
Rep. Eliot L. Engel

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 29, 2011

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo  
Governor of the State of New York  
New York State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

As Members of Congress who represent districts throughout the State of New York, we would like to express our appreciation for your Administration's ongoing support for the Champlain Hudson Power Express Transmission Project. We encourage you to keep this important infrastructure project at the top of your energy agenda. This privately financed, user-pay transmission project will connect cleaner and lower cost sources of energy with the highly congested markets, such as New York City, it will serve.

Once in operation, 1,000 megawatts of clean, low-cost energy will flow south every day. Studies have demonstrated that the project will generate savings to New York electricity consumers in excess of \$500 million per year, and greatly reduce the energy sector's air pollution footprint in the Northeast.

This project, which has been in development for three years, is at the forefront of the nation's emerging "smart grid" revolution, and addresses many of the goals expressed in your Power NY policy book, as well as your broader objectives of job creation and economic growth. It is our understanding that the project is designed to be installed underwater and underground, and that the line will be invisible and minimally disruptive to host communities. Relying on high voltage direct current transmission technology, the line will enable the New York's Independent System Operator to precisely control the flow of power on the line in a more controlled manner, thus improving the reliability of the overall grid. Further, having these additional energy resources will benefit all residents of New York through the process of supply and demand.

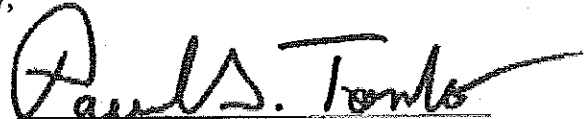
The permitting review for this project has been ongoing before state and federal agencies, and the issuance of a certificate for the project's construction by the New York State Public Service Commission is expected before the end of the year. We believe this project is an important step towards addressing the broader energy challenges facing our state, and our nation. It is our hope that this project proceeds, and leads to greater energy production and transmission within our state. We would encourage you to continue to support projects like this in the future to ensure that consumers and businesses in New York State have access to clean, affordable, and reliable energy, which will encourage economic growth through our great state.

We greatly appreciate your attention to this matter, and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter with you further.

Sincerely,



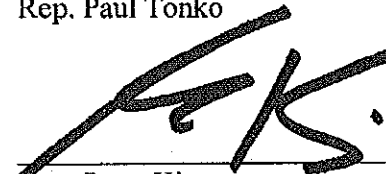
Rep. Tom Reed



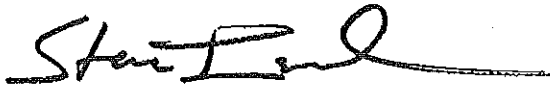
Rep. Paul Tonko



Rep. Tim Bishop



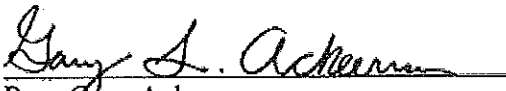
Rep. Peter King



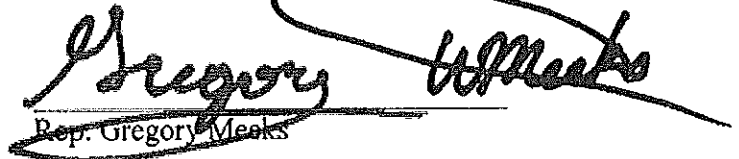
Rep. Steve Israel



Rep. Carolyn McCarthy



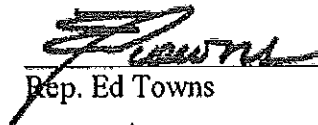
Rep. Gary Ackerman



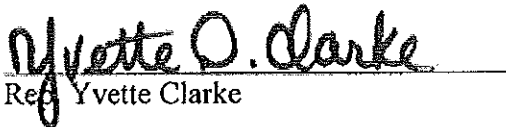
Rep. Gregory Meeks



Rep. Jerry Nadler



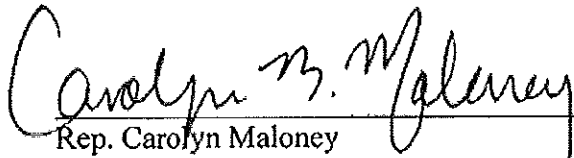
Rep. Ed Towns



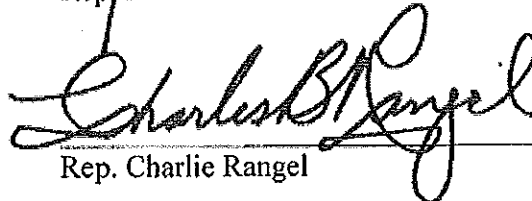
Rep. Yvette Clarke



Rep. Mike Grimm



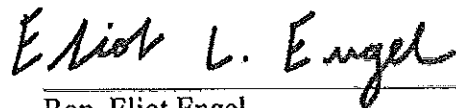
Rep. Carolyn Maloney



Rep. Charlie Rangel



Rep. Richard Hanna



Rep. Eliot Engel

*Ann Marie Buerkle*  
Rep. Ann Marie Buerkle

*Bill Owens*  
Rep. Bill Owens

*Nita M. Lowey*  
Rep. Nita Lowey

*Louise M. Slaughter*  
Rep. Louise Slaughter