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House of Representatives

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May 28, 2010

The Honorable Steven Chu
United States 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:

On Long Island, my constituents face some of the highest electric rates in the country. This impacts the local economy significantly especially with family budgets' tight and businesses considering moving to avoid the high costs. That is why I am on a relentless mission to pursue clean and sustainable energy opportunities for Long Islanders. With that in mind, I write to encourage the Department of Energy to give full and fair consideration to the loan guarantee application referenced above.

The Champlain Hudson Power Express is a high voltage direct current power transmission project that will play a critical role in advancing federal and state smart grid and renewable energy policies. Additionally, this environmentally responsible project has the potential to provide clean energy resources to Long Island homes and businesses at a lower cost. The Champlain Hudson Power Express project represents approximately \$3.8 billion in new capital investment and brings with it the potential for as many as 150 permanent jobs in New York State.

I believe that the Champlain Hudson Power Express has the potential to provide critical environmental and economic benefits to New York State at a time when the need for new transmission infrastructure is very evident. Specifically, this project will bring 2,000 megawatts of carbon-free hydropower and wind energy from Canadian and American sources to New York's downstate region and southwestern Connecticut. Studies performed by London Economics International indicate that this project has the potential to provide billions of dollars

in rate relief to the downstate region including Long Island over the first ten years of the commercial operation of the project.

I appreciate your careful consideration of this application. I believe this project supports your continued leadership in developing a robust clean energy economy in the United States.

As you review this application by the Champlain Hudson Power Express, I would appreciate you keeping my office apprised of the status in advance of any formal determination. Thank you again for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Israel", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Steve Israel
Member of Congress

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