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April 26, 2010

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

Dear Secretary Chu:

I write today in support of Champlain Hudson Power Express and their loan guarantee application for the Department of Energy's solicitation DE-FOA 0000132. 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.

This project will bring 2,000 megawatts of clean renewable energy from Canadian and American sources to New York City and southwestern Connecticut, and it represents approximately \$3.8 billion in new capital investment. Studies performed by London Economics International demonstrate that the project will provide significant rate relief to the New York City metropolitan area and that energy prices generally will be reduced. Studies also show that the project will make for dramatic reductions in air pollution in the northeast, including carbon emissions..

I believe that the Champlain Hudson Power Express provides critical environmental and economic benefits to New York and Connecticut.

Your full and fair consideration of this project, consistent with all federal laws and policies, is appreciated. Please feel free to contact Clinton Britt in my office at 202-225-5076 if you or your staff have any questions.

Sincerely,

PAUL D. TONKO
Member of Congress

PDT/cb

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