

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

April 30, 2009

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

Dear Secretary Chu:

We're writing to respectfully request your support of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding for the Massachusetts Wind Technology Testing Center, a renewable energy research and development facility that will reduce the nation's reliance on fossil fuels.

In June 2007, the Department selected Massachusetts as a site to build and operate a state-of-the-art Wind Technology Testing Center capable of testing large wind blades for the next generation of wind turbines. Governor Patrick and his Administration have partnered on this project with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Massachusetts. The partnership is currently completing the final design for the testing center, and the engineering, environmental permitting, and community consultation process, and the project will be ready for groundbreaking this summer.

We urge the Department to expand its current commitment of \$2 million to the Testing Center, which is now estimated to cost approximately \$25 million to construct. The project will create 250 construction jobs and become a major component of Massachusetts' effort to build a strong clean energy technology and manufacturing cluster.

The Commonwealth is fortunate to be the geographic center of exceptional and unique research, technology, and alternative energy expertise, and is a major hub for venture capital investment in clean technology. New England, however, sits at the end of the pipeline for fossil fuels, and struggles with some of the highest electricity costs in the nation. The Testing Center will help create opportunities for renewable energy throughout the region and the nation, and the technologies it

develops will stimulate the economy, improve our nation's energy security, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

We strongly support this initiative, and we urge your continued assistance with this project, which is of paramount importance to Massachusetts and the nation.

With great respect and appreciation,

Sincerely,

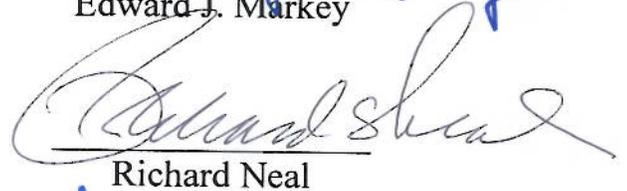
  
Edward M. Kennedy

  
John F. Kerry

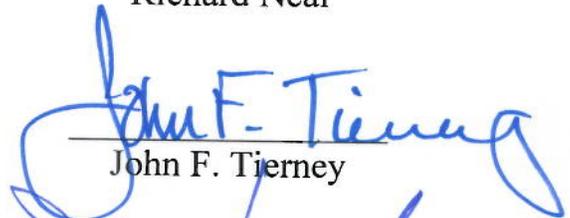
  
Michael E. Capuano

  
Edward J. Markey

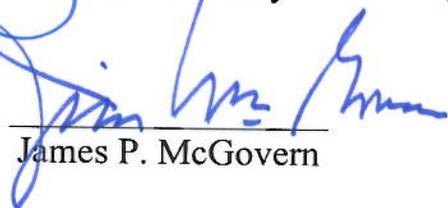
  
Barney Frank

  
Richard Neal

  
John W. Olver

  
John F. Tierney

  
William D. Delahunt

  
James P. McGovern

  
Stephen F. Lynch

  
Niki Tsongas