

May 18, 2009

The Honorable Henry Waxman
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Edward Markey
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Members of the U.S. House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Committee

Dear Messrs. Chairmen and Committee members,

We, the undersigned, wish to express our strong support for the Waxman-Markey American Clean Energy & Security Act (ACES). Specifically, we believe the Clean Energy Innovation Hubs funded through the bill will have a highly catalytic effect on the pace of clean energy research, development, and commercialization—a necessary ingredient if we as a nation are to lead the global clean energy economy, respond to global climate challenges with American inventiveness, and reap the benefits that such leadership will bring.

These Clean Energy Innovation Hubs represent a powerful public/private partnership that will advance strong cleantech clusters across the United States, bringing universities, investors and our brightest inventors together to jumpstart the commercialization of viable technologies.

The funding gap that exists in the early stages of the technology supply chain is well-established. These Hubs will address this gap head on, substantially increasing the capacity of key regions within the U.S. to research, develop, and bring to market the innovative technologies necessary to transform our energy infrastructure—and provide the green jobs our country needs to grow and thrive in the decades ahead. The Hubs will be highly complementary to other, important new federal energy R&D initiatives such as ARPA-E and Energy Frontier Research Centers, and we also wish to express our support for strong funding of such programs.

Further, we would like to offer strong support for the bill's cap & trade, renewable energy and energy efficiency provisions. We believe these will send clear, long-term market signals to those involved in energy generation, distribution and innovation that carbon-intensive approaches to energy will ultimately be less profitable than low-carbon, renewable sources.

We commend the efforts of Congress in advancing this bill; we feel it does an excellent job of balancing a difficult economic climate with our urgent need to advance this nation's leadership in energy innovation and mitigate the economic impact of climate change.

The New England Clean Energy Council has shared this letter of support with a broad community of leaders from research, non-profit, university, venture capital and state organizations, whose endorsement and signatures are below.

Sincerely,

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