

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 16, 2009

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

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We write to express our strong support for Detroit Edison's application for United States Department of Energy (DOE) funding as part of the Smart Grid Investment Grant Program (DE-FOA-0000058). Both the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, focused government resources on the critical task of building a smart grid that would enhance the nation's electric infrastructure as well as develop and deploy systems to increase the effectiveness of energy efficiency initiatives and meet future demand growth.

Detroit Edison's Smart Grid strategy includes the implementation of technologies related to a Next Generation Distribution Circuit, AMI, Smart Home and supporting IT infrastructure. Specific system upgrades as part of this two-year deployment will include 27 circuit upgrades, the installation of over 600,000 AMI meters, the deployment of smart appliances, in-home displays and thermostats to over 600 customers and numerous IT upgrades within Detroit Edison that will support these various installations.

From our perspective, the application meets the Department's goal of accelerating investment in smart grid technology installations and will provide consumers with the tools they need to manage their energy use and maximize savings. Additionally, DOE funding will provide welcome additional investment to a region and a state that continues to experience considerable economic changes and strains. We urge you to give Detroit Edison's application every consideration.

Sincerely,


Gary C. Peters
Member of Congress


Mike Rogers
Member of Congress



Thaddeus McCotter
Member of Congress



John Conyers
Member of Congress



Carolyn C. Kilpatrick
Member of Congress