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20 April, 2009

The Honorable Cherylin Peniston Chairperson House Local Government Committee 200 East Colfax Avenue State Capitol Denver, CO 80203

Representative Peniston and the House Local Government Committee:

I am a consultant to Wind Powering America for whom I promote the benefits of wind power in the western United States. I am also the president of the board of directors for San Miguel Power Association, a rural electric cooperative in southwestern Colorado.

I am writing to you in support for House Bill 09-1350, also known as the New Energy Improvements and Jobs Creation Act of 2009. By offering a new, cost effective way to implement renewable energy at a residential level, HB 09-1350 will be a valuable aid to the reduction of many of Coloradans' home energy bills, especially for rural homeowners who are not a part of a large populous county to leverage a low interest rate in the bond market.

At San Miguel Power, we work daily to keep our members electric costs as low as possible. This is becoming increasingly difficult in the face of what seems like constant upward pressures on the unit price of electricity. Any assistance that the state can offer us in this task would serve the interests of the state as well as the nation.

Other benefits that would be realized through passage of the bill I would summarize as follows. HB 09-1350:

- Encourages both energy efficiency and renewable energy use.
- Offers a new funding source that is affordable for the state's citizens without cost to non-participating tax-payers.
- Will help conserve our valuable fossil fuel natural resources.
- Creates up to 3,000 installation and support jobs.
- Reduces calls on utilities for new generation facilities due to energy load growth.

Thank you for your favorable treatment of HB 09-1350.

Respectfully,

J.R. Wes Perrin

April 21, 2009

The Honorable Cherylin Peniston Chairperson House Local Government Committee 200 East Colfax Avenue State Capitol Denver, CO 80203

Representative Peniston and the House Local Government Committee:

I am a homeowner in Centennial, CO and have recently learned about Representative Joe Miklosi's new bill to provide a special bond based loan to property owners via an improvement district with the loans collected via property taxes. I think this is an excellent idea.

I personally have spent several thousand dollars little by little in the last couple years to add insulation, replace windows and doors and other smaller changes to improve the energy efficiency of my home. I recently looked into taking advantage of the new tax credits (along with Xcel rebates of course) to install a grid connected photo-voltaic system on my house. The contractor I talked to said I have an excellent location. Unfortunately, coming up with the \$10,000 to \$15,000 thousand dollars for the initial investment is difficult to imagine in the current economic climate. The approach I read about in Representative Miklosi's legislation sounds like just the right solution.

I am excited about this bill because it would allow people like me to take advantage of the new federal tax credits, the Xcel rebates, create jobs in Colorado and of course reduce our impact on the environment. I believe the bill will mean that Colorado as a whole will get more of the federal tax credits allocated to our state since you will be helping more property owners to quickly pursue the available savings for energy efficiency and generation. All those credits flowing into Colorado sounds like a very positive thing to me and we will benefit for many years to come because of lower utility bills!

Thank you for taking up this important issue as we face challenging times in our state. This is a good example of how state government can have a positive impact on our economy by partnering with the private sector to create jobs without burdening the state with new obligations... well done!

Best Regards,

Kevin Sengel

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