



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Office of the Governor

Timothy M. Kaine
Governor

March 20, 2009

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

Re: State Energy Program Assurances

Dear Secretary Chu:

As a condition of receiving our State's share of the \$3.1 billion funding for the State Energy Program (SEP) under the American Recovery and Renewal Act of 2009 (H.R. 1) (ARRA), I am providing the following assurances.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has in place provisions that provide general policies for incentives for natural gas and electric utilities to implement cost-effective energy efficiency and demand-side management programs and to recover the costs of such programs in their rates. These policies are implemented by Virginia State Corporation Commission, our State regulatory authority over natural gas and electric utilities.

Virginia also is taking actions to improve building energy codes, consistent with State law and State Constitutional requirements, consistent with the statutory language contained in ARRA.


We are prioritizing our energy investments to take advantage of existing programs and expand programs where appropriate consistent with the statutory language contained in ARRA.

The Commonwealth is committed to a robust improvement in energy efficiency and renewable energy, as well as a balanced State energy policy. I want to assure you that we will move forward in these critical areas.

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We look forward to immediate distribution of the Federal SEP funds to permit my State to make progress in energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TK', with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Timothy M. Kaine