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September 6, 2011

The Honorable Dr. Steven Chu, Secretary
United States Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Sent via email c/o: Lauren.Azar@hq.doe.gov

Dear Secretary Chu,

I am writing on behalf of Terra-Gen Power to thank you for your leadership in support of renewable energy and to respectfully urge your support for proposals to consolidate backstop transmission siting authority at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

Terra-Gen is one of the nation's leading renewable energy providers, and the only American company that provides electricity on a utility scale from all three major renewable energy sources, wind, solar and geothermal power. We now operate 26 renewable energy facilities in six states with a combined capacity of over 1500 megawatts. In addition, we have an ambitious development pipeline with over 6000 megawatts of wind, geothermal and solar projects in various stages of development.

As you know, lack of access to transmission is a critical limitation on renewable energy development in the United States. The designation and development of national interest electric transmission corridors is a crucial step toward alleviating the transmission roadblocks that are effectively denying access to much of the nation's renewable energy resources.

Terra-Gen supports the efforts of the interagency workgroup that includes the Department of Energy (DOE), the Department of the Interior (DOI), the President's Council on Environmental Quality, and the Department of Agriculture. That group has proposed that authority for national interest electric transmission corridor designation be delegated to FERC, and that FERC "fallback authority" be reestablished under EPACT 2005, §1221. We believe this proposal is a constructive step toward resolution of critically important renewable energy transmission problems.

Thank you for considering our views on this important matter.

Sincerely

James Pagano
Chief Executive Officer