

EXEC-2009-004951



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, 60601

Pat Quinn
GOVERNOR

March 3, 2009

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

Re: State Energy Program Assurances

Dear Secretary Chu:

Section 410 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (H.R. 1) (ARRA) provides that as a condition of receiving our State's share of the \$3.1 billion funding for the State Energy Program (SEP), I provide the following assurances. I have written to our public utility commission and requested that they consider additional actions to advance energy efficiency, consistent with ARRA and their obligations to maintain just and reasonable rates, while protecting the public. I have also written to the State Legislature and requested that they consider actions to improve building energy codes, consistent with State law and State Constitutional requirements, and to consider the statutory language contained in ARRA.

We are prioritizing our energy investments to take advantage of existing programs, expand programs where appropriate, and quickly develop new programs to meet critical market demands.

Illinois is committed to a robust improvement in energy efficiency and renewable energy, as well as a balanced State energy policy. I would like to take this opportunity to note that the State of Illinois has already passed a strong Commercial Building Code, Renewable Portfolio Standard and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard. I want to assure you that I will do everything within my power, in conjunction with my fellow citizens, to continue to advance these critical areas.

We look forward to immediate distribution of the Federal SEP funds to permit Illinois to make progress in energy efficiency and renewable energy for the betterment of our economy and environment.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Quinn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pat Quinn
Governor

cc: Gil Sperling, Director, Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs, U.S. Department of Energy
Jonathan Feipel, State Energy Director and Deputy Director, Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Bureau of Energy and Recycling
David Terry, Executive Director, National Association of State Energy Officials