

Plainsandeastern

From: Casey Murdock <Casey.Murdock@okhouse.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2015 3:40 PM
To: Plainsandeastern
Subject: Supporting New Infrastructure to Grow our Economy
Attachments: Supporting New Infrastructure to Grow our Economy .docx

Secretary Moniz,
Please see the attached letter. Thank you!

Casey Murdock

Oklahoma State Representative

District 61

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U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20), 1222 Program
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20585

June 1, 2015

Re: Supporting New Infrastructure to Grow our Economy

Dear Secretary Moniz:

A decade ago, Congress and President George W. Bush enacted the Energy Policy Act (“EPAAct”) of 2005. This bi-partisan law was created to increase domestic energy sources, lower power prices for consumers, and create jobs. The law includes Section 1222, which authorizes the Department of Energy to work with the Southwestern Power Administration in facilitating public/private partnerships to invest in electric transmission.

I write today to strongly encourage you to take timely and appropriate measures to support diverse energy options and to increase the energy supply available in our nation. I encourage you to support a regulatory environment in which entrepreneurial capital will make investments to build the infrastructure—such as pipelines and electric transmission—that our economy requires now and for our future.

In the ten years since the enactment of the EPAAct of 2005, no new projects have been built under Section 1222. One project, called the Plains & Eastern Clean Line, is working to supply Arkansas, Tennessee, and other states in the Mid-South and Southeast United States with more than 3,500 megawatts of cost-competitive wind energy from the Oklahoma Panhandle region.

We, in Oklahoma, are excited about the opportunities this project presents for our state to create new jobs and export our renewable resource for years to come. We have an abundant wind resource and are pleased to be able to contribute clean, affordable energy to other parts of the country. We know that we can grow our state’s economy with wind energy but we are lacking the transmission infrastructure to export this resource to areas of the country with a demand. This project will allow us to move forward. The development, construction, and operation of the transmission line and the new wind farms will transform Oklahoma’s Panhandle region. This project is in the public interest and I urge your timely review and approval so we can realize the great benefits in our state sooner than later. Let’s put this law to good use and prevent more years from passing without building new needed public infrastructure projects.

Sincerely,



Representative Casey Murdock
Oklahoma House of Representatives, District 61