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July 17, 2006

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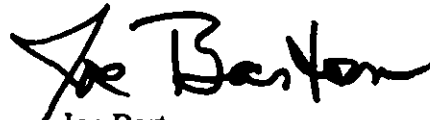
The Honorable Joseph T. Kelliher
Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Chairman Kelliher:

I am writing to commend you on the work that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has been doing to implement the provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAAct 2005). In particular, I see that the rulemaking concerning incentives for new electric transmission infrastructure is on the docket for the open FERC meeting this week. I continue to believe that the United States needs more energy infrastructure in order to maintain the high standard of living that we enjoy today. Encouraging new infrastructure investment requires removing financial barriers by providing financially competitive returns on investments and removing regulatory barriers and uncertainty, while continuing to ensure just and reasonable rates for purchasers. Clear rules and incentives will help to build the infrastructure we need for the future.

Please let me know if there is any further legislative authority that FERC needs in order to promote the development and improvement of adequate energy infrastructure in the United States. Again, congratulations on the superlative record that FERC has compiled in meeting the requirements of EPAAct 2005.

Sincerely,


Joe Barton
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Nora Mead Brownell
The Honorable Suede G. Kelly

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