



Using less. Doing more.



June 25, 2015

Dear Members,

The undersigned write to urge that the House energy efficiency title include a provision that would repeal a requirement regarding the reduction and eventual elimination of fossil fuel-generated energy consumption in new and renovated federal buildings, and strengthen broader energy efficiency targets and other direction to federal agencies. The provision, which is included in the McKinley-Welch energy efficiency bill, H.R. 2177, was developed by a diverse coalition of industry, efficiency and environmental advocates. The result of that process is a broadly-supported provision that dramatically improves energy efficiency. The provision would save taxpayers money by enhancing the energy efficiency of federal buildings.

A part of Section 433 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 was intended to reduce fossil fuel-generated energy use in new and renovated federal buildings, with a 100 percent reduction required by the year 2030. However, due to the complexities of the law, the federal government cannot find a long-term path to compliance. Thus, there are continuing concerns that it could discourage comprehensive energy efficiency renovations, stifle innovations and result in increased energy costs for the federal government.

This provision would not only repeal the ban on the use of fossil fuel-generated energy, but would strengthen several existing federal energy management provisions to ensure large energy savings in the coming years. This fuel-neutral provision would:

- Extend overall energy use intensity reduction targets of 3% a year for federal buildings out to 2017 to continue the focus on reducing building energy waste;
- Ensure that significant alterations and additions to federal buildings, such as new roofs, meet minimum efficiency levels;
- Use commissioning of large federal buildings to ensure that their energy systems are operating as



designed – this has been shown to achieve significant energy savings at modest cost; and

- Encourage use of energy management systems and implementation of cost-effective capital measures in large federal buildings, in part by using private financing and expertise, such as in Energy Savings Performance Contracts and Utility Energy Service Contracts.

This provision would give federal building energy managers flexibility to achieve reductions in federal energy consumption in a cost-effective manner, encourage the adoption of energy efficient technologies and practices, and spur the retrofits of federal buildings.

We greatly appreciate your leadership in building broad support behind a legislative package that will ensure that the federal government demonstrates best practices in reducing wasted energy and wasted taxpayer money.

Sincerely,
Alliance to Save Energy
Ameresco
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
American Gas Association
American Public Gas Association
American Public Power Association
Combined Heat and Power Association
Constellation Energy
Edison Electric Institute
Energy Systems Group
Federal Performance Contracting Coalition
Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association
Honeywell
Johnson Controls Inc.
Lockheed Martin
National Association of Energy Service Companies
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
Owens Corning
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association
Schneider Electric
Siemens
Trane
United Technologies