

13 September 2006

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
U.S. House Speaker
235 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am writing on behalf of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-United States of America (IEEE-USA) to urge prompt consideration and passage of H.R.5656, the Energy Research, Development, Demonstration, and Commercial Application Act of 2006. H.R.5656 promotes energy research and development directed towards advanced clean coal energy technology; advanced nuclear fuel technologies; plug-in hybrid electric vehicles; production of liquid fuels from biomass; hydrogen technology and advanced solar photovoltaic and wind energy technologies. The IEEE-USA believes that these and other renewable electricity technologies are essential components of a diverse set of options for electric power generation in the coming decades. In particular, IEEE-USA believes that Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles, as part of a comprehensive alternative energy strategy, would provide definite benefits to society, including increased energy efficiency, fuel diversity, contribute to fuel security, reduce emission at the point of consumption, and considerably lower overall emissions.

IEEE-USA supports a broad program of research and development in energy technologies, targeted at assuring an adequate, reliable, economical, and environmentally responsible supply of electricity. We advocate a strong program in R&D leading to early adoption of important developing technologies. Accordingly, IEEE-USA recommends that industry and government, working with other stakeholders:

- Support funding for R&D activities in renewable electric power technologies to accelerate and enhance their contributions to world electricity supplies;
- Improve opportunities for renewable energy, in order to help solar and renewable power technologies expand their market share by enhancing and exploiting their characteristic advantages, including:
- security of supply, price predictability, distributed and modular nature, and environmental friendliness;
- Support programs for education on, and early deployment of, emerging renewable power technologies.

We applaud the House Science Committee for its leadership in advancing this important legislation, and we urge the full House of Representatives to act on this legislation during this session of Congress. IEEE-USA advances the public good and promotes the careers and public policy interests of more than 220,000 engineers, scientists and allied professionals who are U.S. members of the IEEE. IEEE-USA is part of the IEEE, the world's largest technical professional society with 360,000 members in 150 countries. For more information, go to <http://www.ieeeusa.org>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ralph W. Wyndrum, Jr." The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Ralph W. Wyndrum, Jr., Eng.Sc.D.
President, IEEE-USA