

12 June 2007

The Honorable Charles Rangel, Chairman
House Ways and Means Committee
US House of Representatives
2354 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515-3215

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-United States of America (IEEE-USA), I am writing to urge the House Ways and Means Committee to include language promoting the development and commercial use of Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs) in its proposed energy package.

Everyone is familiar with the new hybrid vehicles introduced in recent years as both passenger cars and SUVs, whose improved fuel efficiency has benefited U.S. consumers and reduced U.S. reliance on foreign sources of oil. These hybrids are more properly referred to as hybrid electric vehicles (HEV) as they combine the driving range and convenience of a liquid fueled combustion engine with the efficiency advantages of electric drive train components to propel the vehicle. Plug-in hybrid (PHEV) technology utilizes grid electricity as a substitute for liquid fuel - largely imported oil - and increases the time the hybrid vehicle operates in an all electric mode, reducing local air emissions and assuring full recovery of braking. Electricity, in combination with alternatively produced domestic and renewable liquid fuels, can significantly reduce US dependence on foreign oil and increase our energy independence and national security.

IEEE-USA strongly encourages Congress to pass PHEV legislation and we stand ready and willing to assist in this effort. IEEE-USA is an organizational unit of The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc., created in 1973 to advance the public good, while promoting the careers and public-policy interests of the more than 220,000 engineers, scientists and allied professionals who are U.S. members of the IEEE. If you have any questions or we can be of further assistance, please contact Bill Williams, legislative representative for our Energy Policy Committee, at (202) 530-8331.

Sincerely,



Dr. Clifford Lau
Vice President, Technology Policy Activities

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