22 February, 2010

The Honorable Ben Ray Luján
502 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Community College Energy Training Act (HR 3731)

Dear Congressman Luján:

I am writing on behalf of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-United States of America (IEEE-USA) to express support for the Community College Energy Training Act of 2009 (H.R. 3731). This legislation will help America to meet the future workforce demands of a clean energy economy.

To help break our dependence on foreign energy resources and mitigate the effects of climate change, new and established technologies must be applied on an unprecedented scale and on an accelerated schedule. This will create an increasing demand for a specially educated workforce that can respond quickly and effectively to the growing need for new and more economical energy generation and distribution technologies.

The Community College Energy Training Act, which establishes a program to provide for workforce training and education in sustainable energy at our nation’s community colleges, will help train the next generation of technicians to work in the renewable energy technologies, including wind, solar, geothermal and biomass, among others. We are very encouraged that you and the other cosponsors of H.R.3731 are taking the lead in directly addressing this country’s energy workforce needs. IEEE-USA offers its substantial resources to help promote this important legislation.

IEEE-USA advances the public good and promotes the careers and public policy interests of more than 210,000 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 370,000 members in 160 countries. For more information, please contact Vin O’Neill at (202) 530-8327 or at v.oneill@ieee.org; or Bill Williams at (202) 530-8331, or bill.williams@ieee.org.

Sincerely,

Gordon W. Day
IEEE-USA Past President