



June 29, 2011

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Clean Energy Deployment Administration

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Electricity Storage Association (ESA) would like to indicate its strong support for the Clean Energy Deployment Administration (CEDA) legislation. The goal of CEDA is to encourage the deployment of technologies perceived as too risky for commercial backers. We believe that many energy storage technologies would benefit from this program.

Energy storage is a fuel-neutral, emission-free resource for both the supply and demand sides of the electric grid. Storage technologies help make the grid smarter and more flexible for all other resources. Energy storage allows us to use other resources, including natural gas and renewables, more efficiently. Energy storage can provide energy when it is the most economic and convenient option. Our efficient technologies truly enable a secure energy future.

ESA member companies-- located throughout the US and globally--have been innovating for decades, starting with pumped hydropower storage and thermal storage and expanding our technologies with advanced batteries and flywheels. Our plants have created thousands of jobs and have significant potential to create more jobs if the right policies are put in place. As storage technologies improve, the costs have decreased, but public policy needs to improve as well.

To become truly competitive as an energy resource, energy storage needs to move from labs and pilot projects to scale through robust financing mechanisms like those created in CEDA. Removing risk for banks will make a key difference in developing the market for energy storage.

Thank you for your leadership on CEDA and other clean energy issues. Please consider ESA your trusted resource on energy storage technologies. We look forward to working with you to see this bill become a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Roberts". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Brad Roberts
Executive Director