United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4606

December 5, 2023

COMMITTEES: **FINANCE**

BANKING, HOUSING, AND **URBAN AFFAIRS**

BUDGET

INTELLIGENCE

RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm Secretary U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue SW Washington, DC 20585-0001

Dear Secretary Granholm,

I write today in support of Topsoe's application to the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit (48C) Program to assist with establishing a new solid oxide electrolyzer component (SOEC) manufacturing facility in Chesterfield County, Virginia.

I understand that this proposed project is projected to bring a more than \$400M investment, 150 direct jobs, and more than 1,000 indirect jobs through the value chain in the United States. The location that Topsoe has chosen, Chesterfield County, is an "energy community." At the selected site, the proposed facility has the potential to offset the lost industrial jobs from closure of a nearby coal-fired power plant.

It is my understanding that this U.S. factory, combined with Topsoe's SOEC factory already under construction in Denmark, will place the company among the largest SOEC manufacturers in the world. I have been told that this innovative SOEC technology increases electrolyzer efficiency up to 30% compared to conventional incumbent electrolysis technologies, decreasing the need for additional renewable electricity build-out and/or reducing the levelized cost of hydrogen.

The projected annual output, once fully operational, is up to 1.4 GW of electrolyzer stacks, potentially enabling an annual greenhouse gas emission avoidance of up to 2 million tonnes CO2e—the equivalent of avoiding the emissions from more than 400,000 gasoline-powered passenger vehicles driven for a year. This project is a critical contributor to the DOE's national goal of realizing production levels of 10 million metric tonnes per year of clean hydrogen by 2030.

I ask that you give this application every appropriate consideration. To the extent possible, please continue to update my office on the status of this program by emailing GrantSupport Warner@warner.senate.gov.

Thank you for your service on behalf of my constituents.

Sincerely,

MARK R. WARNER

United States Senator

MRW/aw

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