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AND PENSIONS

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4607

January 4, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Granholm,

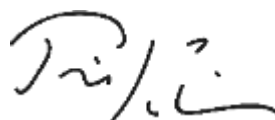
I write to express support for Topsoe, an applicant for grant funding under the U.S. Department of Energy §48C funding for a new solid oxide electrolyzer cell (SOEC) manufacturing facility - the critical component for producing clean hydrogen - in Chesterfield County, Virginia. This project will contribute to the Department of Energy's national goal of producing 10 million metric tons per year of clean hydrogen by 2030.

Throughout my career in the Senate, I have supported our clean energy transition, and I am excited to see an industry leader like Topsoe choose to invest in Virginia. The proposed project is expected to bring more than \$400 million in investments, 150 direct jobs, and over 1,000 indirect domestic jobs through the value chain. It is also important to recognize that the location Topsoe has chosen is in an "energy community" as defined under §48C in its site selection. At the selected site, the proposed facility can potentially offset the lost industrial jobs from closure of a nearby coal-fired power plant.

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 gigawatts of electrolyzer stacks, potentially enabling an annual greenhouse gas emission avoidance of up to 2 million tons - the equivalent of more than 400,000 gasoline-powered passenger vehicles off the road.

Please give full and fair evaluation to this project, which will benefit Chesterfield County and global viable projects to accelerate the energy transition. Should you have any questions regarding this project, contact my Office's Grants Coordinator, [REDACTED]. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Tim Kaine