

TIM KAINE
VIRGINIA

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4607
(202) 224-4024

COMMITTEE ON
ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN RELATIONS

COMMITTEE ON
THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4607

June 2, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Granholm,

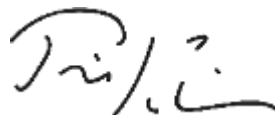
I write to express support for Microporous, an applicant for grant funding under the U.S. Department of Energy's Advanced Energy Manufacturing and Recycling Grant Program, FOA 2907, for their Project Stellar to construct new lithium-ion battery separator manufacturing facilities in Virginia.

Microporous's experience and track record in producing high-quality battery separators in the U.S. and Europe for the global lead acid battery market is evident. As a top-three lead acid battery separator manufacturer worldwide with more than 80 years of manufacturing experience here in the U.S., Microporous is indeed well positioned to be a leading domestic lithium-ion battery separator manufacturer that will support the rapidly expanding U.S. lithium-ion battery market.

Microporous's Project Stellar would increase the U.S. manufacturing base and contribute to economic prosperity in our region. The Project Stellar initiative will revitalize areas of the Commonwealth that have suffered long-term economic consequences caused by the closure of coal mines and coal-fired power plants. In addition, this project will lead to the creation of good-paying jobs with above-average wages and address equity and environmental justice concerns in the community.

Please give full and fair evaluation to this project, which will benefit energy manufacturing for the nation while providing economic revitalization and equity for communities in Virginia. Should you have any questions regarding this project, contact my Office's Grants Coordinator, [REDACTED]. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Tim Kaine