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March 12, 2002

The Honorable Craig Thomas  
U. S. Senate  
109 Senate Hart Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-5003

Dear Senator Thomas:

We appreciate you taking the lead in offering a substitute amendment on electricity reliability during the Senate consideration of the Energy Policy Act of 2002.

This amendment is supported by a broad range of interests in addition to the Western governors, including the North American Electric Reliability Council; the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners; the western electricity industry through the Western Interconnection Coordination Forum; and the Canadian Electricity Association.

The amendment is critical to meet the energy needs of our nation and each of the three electrically distinct grids that have evolved in North America. It accommodates the international nature of our electric grids, and it builds on more than 30 years of success in maintaining system reliability.

Sincerely,

Jane Dee Hull  
Governor of Arizona

Chairman

Jim Geringer  
Governor of Wyoming

Lead Governor for Energy

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.  
Governor of Oregon

Lead Governor for Energy