



# Western Interstate Energy Board/ WINB

October 8, 2009

Alberta  
Arizona  
British Columbia  
California  
Colorado  
Montana  
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Utah  
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Wyoming

The Honorable Steven Chu  
Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

**Subject:** American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Smart Grid  
Investment Grant – (DE-FOA-0000058)

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing on behalf of the Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation (CREPC) to express support for the Western Electricity Coordinating Council's (WECC) project proposal — submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on August 6, 2009 under solicitation DE-FOA-0000058 — the Western Interconnection Synchrophasor Program. CREPC includes the public utility commissions and energy agencies in the states and provinces in the Western Interconnection. We believe this proposal will achieve ambitious policy goals set by the DOE and Congress to improve grid reliability and flexibility, and to integrate renewable resources.

WECC's proposal will deploy technologies across the Western Interconnection that significantly improve real-time monitoring and control of the western electric power system to reduce the risk of blackouts, speed recovery from outages, and increase the region's ability to transmit significant amounts of renewable generation to consumers. The technologies will be interoperable and secure from cyber attacks.

The proposed West-wide deployment of synchrophasor infrastructure and applications would provide a solid transmission foundation for future smart grid innovations, complementing the nation's electric grid modernization efforts.

**Steve Ellenbecker**  
Chairman

**Douglas C. Larson**  
Executive Director

The Honorable Steven Chu  
October 8, 2009  
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We join the North American Electric Reliability Corporation in their support of the WECC proposal.

WECC's proposed interconnection-wide project will significantly further the goal of providing reliable power and expanding the West's ability to transmit and integrate large amounts of renewable generation. We urge the full funding of this project to assure the reliability of the bulk power system in the West.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John F. Savage". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J".

John Savage, Chairman  
Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation