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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

December 19, 2023

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Granholm:

I write to ask your consideration of Topsoe for funding through the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit (48C) program. I ask for your full and fair consideration of their request.

This funding would support a new solid oxide electrolyzer cell (SOEC) manufacturing facility—the critical component for producing clean hydrogen—in Chesterfield County, Virginia. These crucial incentives were made available by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and I am excited to see them accelerating significant new investments in U.S. clean energy technology manufacturing. This project is a critical contributor to the Department of Energy's national goal of realizing production levels of 10 million metric tons per year of clean hydrogen by 2030.

During my time in Congress, I have worked to bring innovative technology to market to assist in our clean energy transition, so I'm excited to see an industry leader like Topsoe choose to invest in Virginia. The proposed project is projected to bring a more than \$400M investment, 150 direct jobs, and 1,000+ indirect jobs through the value chain right here in the U.S. 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.

The U.S. factory, combined with their SOEC factory already under construction in Denmark, will place Topsoe among the largest SOEC electrolyzer manufacturers in the world. Their Denmark facility will also significantly de-risk the U.S. 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. 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 tons CO₂e – the equivalent of avoiding the emissions from more than 400,000 gasoline-powered passenger vehicles driven for a year.

Topsoe's application for §48C funding meets the high bar the Department of Energy has set to support viable projects to accelerate the energy transition. Again, I ask for your full and fair consideration of Topsoe's application for funding from the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit (48C) Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer L. McClellan".

Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress