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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
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March 17, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Granholm:

Congratulations on your recent appointment and confirmation as Secretary of Energy. I look forward to working with you over the coming years to improve the energy efficiency of our nation, push for further transportation electrification, and support the clean energy transition as we decarbonize our economy.

I write today to offer my support as you work to implement the Energy Act of 2020. There were several provisions within the package that I am most interested in helping you implement quickly and effectively.

The provisions that I have authored and advocated for and are now signed into law include:

- The Energy Savings Through Public Private Partnerships Act (H.R. 3079)
- Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) Authorization (partial H.R. 5650)
- The Smart Building Acceleration Act (H.R. 2044)
- Smart Manufacturing and Leadership Act (partial H.R. 1633)
- Combined Heat and Power Support Act (H.R. 1480)
- Provisions from the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act (partial H.R. 3962)

You have a significant amount of work to do in implementing all the legislation signed into law at the end of last year. It is my hope the above provisions will be at or near the top of your priority list, and I stand ready to assist and support your efforts in implementing these bills.

I want to specifically call out The Energy Savings Through Public Private Partnerships Act, which requires federal agencies to carry out the life-cycle cost effective energy conservation measures (ECMs) reported through required audits and requires that at least half of those projects be accomplished through performance contracting. I hope that this bill will be quickly implemented to allow for the leveraging of private capital and expertise to help complete critical energy efficiency, resiliency, and security upgrades at federal facilities.

I also want to call to your attention that The Energy Savings Through Public Private Partnerships Act within the Energy Act of 2020 broadened the applicability of Performance Contracting. One such change was in the definition of ECMs to include “energy consuming devices and required support structures” to open the door to using performance contracting for fleet electrification and electric vehicle supply equipment. Please consider including these two applications as permissible ECMs when implementing this legislation. Allowing performance contracts to incorporate these measures can help unlock additional private sector investment and provide the federal government with an additional tool to implement President Biden’s clean transportation priorities.

As co-chair of the House Performance Contracting Caucus, I look forward to working with you on ensuring we leverage performance contracts to achieve the ambitious, but necessary, energy and climate goals laid out by President Biden. I look forward to your productive and forward-looking tenure at the Department of Energy.

If you would like to get in touch with me or my staff, please reach out to Alex Piper ([Alex.Piper@mail.house.gov](mailto:Alex.Piper@mail.house.gov)) in my office. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



PETER WELCH  
United States Congressman

Cc: Kathleen Hogan, Acting Undersecretary  
Kelly Speakes-Bachman, Acting Assistant Secretary, EERE  
Leslie Nicholls, Director of the Federal Energy and Water Management Program