



Electricity Consumers Resource Council

1101 K Street, NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005-4210
202.682.1390

John P. Hughes
President & Chief Executive Officer

March 15, 2017

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chair
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: ELCON Testimony for Record on 'Hearing on Opportunities to Improve American Energy Infrastructure' with CHP

Dear Chair Murkowski,

During the March 14 hearing on 'Opportunities to Improve American Energy Infrastructure' the Committee received testimony about the need for Congress to support hydropower and geothermal energy resources, specifically by renewing the recently expired production tax credit. ELCON respectfully suggests that Combined Heat and Power (CHP) technologies is similarly an important energy resource that federal policies should encourage. Please include this letter as part of the hearing record.

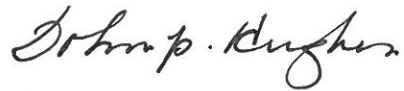
ELCON is the national association representing large industrial users of electricity, many of whom operate CHP facilities.

CHP is an important part of our nation's energy mix. Currently, the United States has an installed capacity of over 82 gigawatts of CHP at more than 4,100 industrial and commercial facilities, but there remains 149 gigawatts of potential CHP. To begin to tap that potential, the Department of Energy set a goal of 40 gigawatts of new, cost-effective CHP by 2020.

CHP enhances our energy security by reducing our national energy requirements, improves business international competitiveness by increasing energy efficiency and reducing costs, diversifies energy supplies by enabling further integration of domestically produced and renewable fuels, advances environmental goals by reducing CO2 and other pollutants, improves grid reliability, and creates jobs. It is the most cost effective, efficient and practical source of steam and power for many manufacturing processes and important for expanding the manufacturing base of our nation.

ELCON believes that any legislation considered by Congress to improve this country's energy infrastructure should include support for further development of this critical, cost-effective, energy-efficient, and environmentally-sensible resource.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John P. Hughes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "H" and "J".

John Hughes
President and CEO

CC: Members, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources