



## Industrial Energy Consumers of America

*The Voice of the Industrial Energy Consumers*

---

1155 15<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 500 • Washington, D.C. 20005  
Telephone 202-223-1661 • Fax 202-223-1420 • [www.ieca-us.org](http://www.ieca-us.org)

February 19, 2008

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Committee on Agriculture,  
Nutrition & Forestry  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Saxby Chambliss  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Agriculture,  
Nutrition & Forestry  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Collin C. Peterson  
Chairman  
Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bob Goodlatte  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

***SUBJECT: INCLUDE SENATE-PASSED "CFTC REAUTHORIZATION ACT"  
IN FARM BILL CONFERENCE NEGOTIATIONS***

As you engage in conference negotiations for the Farm Bill (H.R. 2419), we urge you to include in the final bill the U.S. Senate-passed "Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) Reauthorization Act of 2007."

IECA is a 501 (C) (6) national non-profit non-partisan cross-industry trade association whose membership is exclusively from the manufacturing sector.

The legislation, found in Sections 13201-13204 of the Senate Farm Bill closes the Enron loophole and establishes CFTC regulatory oversight for natural gas trades on the electronic exchanges, commonly referred to as the over-the-counter market (OTC). These provisions will go a long way to increase transparency and reduce the threat of manipulation and excessive speculation that has created unnecessary volatility and higher natural gas costs for every homeowner, farmer and manufacturing company in the U.S.

We wish to remind you that because of the lack of market oversight, the Amaranth Advisors hedge fund was found to be in control of 60 percent of all natural gas contracts, clearly a position of market power that influenced the price of natural gas. It was only because of their collapse that regulators even knew of the substantial market power that they controlled. We must never let this happen again.

We urge your support of these provisions in the Farm Bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul N. Cicio". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "C".

Paul N. Cicio  
President

cc: The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House  
The Honorable Steny H. Hoyer, House Majority Leader  
The Honorable John A. Boehner, House Minority Leader  
The Honorable Harry M. Reid, Senate Majority Leader  
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader  
House Farm Bill Conferees  
Senate Farm Bill Conferees