



Industrial Energy Consumers of America
The Voice of the Industrial Energy Consumers

1155 15th Street, NW, Suite 500 • Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone 202-223-1420 • Fax 202-530-0659 • www.ieca-us.org

July 31, 2012

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
235 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: H.R. 4273, the Resolving Environmental and Grid Reliability Conflicts Act of 2012

Dear Speaker Boehner and Democratic Leader Pelosi:

On behalf of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA), we support passage of H.R. 4273, the Resolving Environmental and Grid Reliability Conflicts Act of 2012. As large industrial consumers of electricity, the cost and reliability of electricity is very important to our competitiveness. When government agencies require electric generators to run their facility, we do not want our providers to second guess the decision because of a potential lawsuit. We want them to operate and maintain the reliability of the grid.

Reliability of electricity supply is very important. If the power goes out in manufacturing facilities without warning, it becomes a safety issue for facility employees because many facilities have high pressure vessels and/or operate furnaces at thousands of degrees Fahrenheit. Also, product that is in the equipment can be damaged or ruined. Equipment can be either partially or permanently damaged resulting in lost production capacity. For large facilities, costs can quickly run into the tens of millions of dollars.

Thank you for your leadership on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Cicio
President

cc: U.S. House of Representatives

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading Manufacturing companies with \$700 billion in annual sales and with more than 650,000 employees nationwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through research, advocacy, and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: plastics, cement, paper, food processing, brick, chemicals, fertilizer, insulation, steel, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, aluminum and brewing.