



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

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July 26, 2012

The Honorable Charles Bass
U.S. House of Representatives
2350 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jim Matheson
U.S. House of Representatives
2434 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: IECA Supports H.R. 4017, the “Smart Energy Act”

Dear Representative Bass and Representative Matheson:

On behalf of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA), we support passage of H.R. 4017, the “Smart Energy Act,” with the inclusion of the provisions that call for various studies that advance industrial energy efficiency. This legislation will help identify federal and state policy barriers to increased industrial energy efficiency, demand response and greater use of combined heat and power, and will require the DOE to develop a strategy to double CHP capacity by 2020. These are all very positive initiatives.

There are two ways that manufacturing companies can improve their competitiveness and increase jobs. They can either increase revenues or decrease costs. Improving energy efficiency is an excellent way to reduce costs.

We have lost 5.5 million manufacturing jobs since 2000. Due to the loss of competitiveness and a slow recovery of jobs (about 500,000 since 2010), we have a long way to go. We believe that improving energy efficiency is a solid winning policy platform that will contribute to capital investment, reductions in emissions, and an increase in jobs and exports.

We thank you for your leadership on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Cicio
President

cc: House Committee on Energy and Commerce

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.