



February 15, 2012

The Honorable Charles F. Bass
United States House of Representatives
2350 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bass:

I am writing to express USCHPA's support for H.R. 4017, the "Smart Energy Act".

The U.S. Clean Heat & Power Association (U.S. CHP Association) is the voice of the combined heat and power (CHP) industry. USCHPA's membership includes manufacturers, suppliers, and developers of combined heat and power (CHP) systems. Currently supplying eight percent (8%) of U.S. generating capacity, CHP systems can reach efficiencies above eighty percent (80%). There is approximately 82 GW of CHP installed in the U.S., which achieves a savings of 248 million metric tons of CO₂ annually. Industry estimates indicate the technical potential for additional CHP at existing sites in the U.S. is between 130 and 170 GW, plus an additional 10 GW of waste heat recovery CHP. This is generating capacity that is readily available, provided policies are established to support further CHP deployment.

To that end, I am pleased that the Smart Energy Act will establish necessary financing for building efficiency improvements, including distributed generation technologies such as combined heat and power (CHP) systems. In addition, though achieving CHP deployment levels sufficient to produce 170GW by 2020 will be challenging given restrictive state level policies, establishing a national CHP deployment goal, and requiring the DOE to develop strategies for achieving that goal, is nevertheless an intelligent approach to encouraging the proliferation of energy efficient CHP.

On behalf of the CHP industry, I thank you for your leadership on this issue and look forward to working with you to advance the legislation.

Sincerely,

Jessica H. Bridges, CAE IOM
Executive Director

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