

March 31, 2014

The Honorable Barack Obama President of the United States The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to strongly support the re-nomination of Acting Chairman Cheryl LaFleur to serve as a Commissioner on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. In addition to her four years of service on the Commission, she has spent more than two decades demonstrating an unwavering commitment to providing affordable and reliable energy to Americans.

In 2010, Acting Chairman LaFleur was appointed to serve on the Commission and later confirmed by the United States Senate for a term that ends in June of this year. Since her confirmation, Acting Chairman LaFleur has focused much of her time on improving reliability and grid security, promoting regional transmission planning and supporting a clean and diverse power supply for the country. She serves as the Commission's liaison to the Department of Energy's Electricity Advisory Committee and a member of the NARUC Committees on Electricity and Critical Infrastructure. As you know, for the last four months, Ms. LaFleur has served as the Acting Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Prior to joining the Commission, Acting Chairman LaFleur served as the Executive Vice President and Acting CEO of National Grid USA. In this capacity, she was responsible for the delivery of electricity to 3.4 million customers in the Northeast and led major efforts to improve reliability and employee safety. Earlier in her career, she led energy efficiency programs in New Hampshire and across the New England region that won national recognition because of their focus on residential efficiency.

We believe it is vital to nominate someone with knowledge of the energy issues impacting the United States and Acting Chairman LaFleur is presently the only individual on the Commission with deep knowledge of the Northeast region's unique energy challenges. Her expertise in energy and competitive wholesale markets give her a thorough understanding of how regulators' decisions affect real customers, especially those in New England. Acting Chairman LaFleur's experience and commitment make her especially qualified to continue serving the people of this nation as a Commissioner on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

We appreciate your consideration of this recommendation. If we can provide additional information concerning Acting Chairman Cheryl LaFleur and her qualifications for this position, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

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Jeanne Shaheen United States Senator

Sheldon Whitehouse United States Senator

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Kelly Ayotte United States Senator

Susan Collins United States Senator

CC: United States Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid

Edward Markey **O** United States Senator

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United States Senator

Angus S. King Jr.

Angus S. King Jr. United States Senator