Dave Heineman
Governor

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April 14, 2009

The Honorable Steven Chu
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Chu:

As a condition of receiving Nebraska's share of the $3.1 billion funding for the State Energy Program (SEP) under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (H.R. 1) (ARRA), I am providing the following assurances.

I have written to the Nebraska Public Service Commission and requested they consider additional actions to promote energy efficiency, consistent with the Federal statutory language contained in H.R.1 and their obligations to maintain just and reasonable rates, while protecting the public.

I have also written to the Nebraska Legislature requesting that they make a good faith effort to upgrade building energy codes consistent with ARRA. The good faith effort requirement was confirmed by Vice President Biden's office on April 9th.

We are prioritizing our energy investments to take advantage of existing programs and expand programs where appropriate. The State is committed to improving energy efficiency and renewable energy, as well as a balanced State energy policy. I want to assure you that, within the limits of my authority, we will move forward in these critical areas.

We look forward to immediate distribution of the Federal SEP funds to permit Nebraska to make progress in energy efficiency and renewable energy. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dave Heineman

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Governor

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cc: Gil Sperling, Director, Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs
U. S. Department of Energy

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