

UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

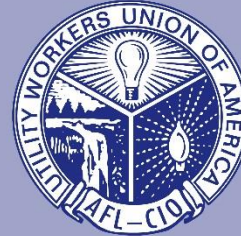
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June 26, 2023

Secretary Jennifer Granholm
Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington DC 20585

Dear Secretary Granholm,

The Utility Workers Union of America (UWUA) is pleased to offer this letter of support for Consumers Energy, along with prime applicant BP, for their application to Phase III of DOE's Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) Carbon Storage Assurance Facility Enterprise (CarbonSAFE) Initiative (DE-FOA-0002711). The UWUA has represented employees of Consumers Energy since 1944 and through our joint partnership, have built successful apprenticeship and certification programs, quality jobs and a deep, mutual commitment to our safety culture. We see this proposal as an opportunity to extend and expand our collaboration for the future benefit of consumers, workers and the company.

This innovative proposal aligns well with our mission to power America in coal, natural gas, nuclear, and hydro-electric power plants, ensuring the lights stay on around the clock, meeting the future in energy storage facilities and on utility-scale wind and solar farms, and keeping our customers healthy by providing clean drinking water, treating wastewater, and maintaining water systems throughout our communities. UWUA has a long-standing partnership with Consumers Energy – one of the main utility sub-recipients of this award.

We support the objectives of this grant-funded proposal to promote the successful future of carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS). The focus of Phase III of the DOE's FECM grant -- storage complex feasibility, site characterization, and permitting and construction of the storage complex – is critical to addressing the key gaps on the path toward CCUS deployment. The UWUA knows that validating the use of CCUS as a critical technology is key to getting to net zero. The implementation of CCUS will create and maintain good paying jobs while providing reliable, lower emission energy.

The UWUA supports this effort by Consumers Energy, BP and others, and strongly encourages the Department of Energy to fully fund this partnership that will help ensure commercial deployment of CCUS as an energy, economic and environmental priority for the nation.

Sincerely,

James T. Slevin
National President
Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO