



Geothermal Exchange Organization

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Douglas A. Dougherty • President and Chief Executive Officer

April 28, 2015

Honorable Rep. Ed Whitfield
Chairman, House Subcommittee
on Energy and Power
U.S. House of Representatives
2184 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Rep. Bobby Rush
Ranking Member, House Subcommittee
on Energy and Power
U.S. House of Representatives
2188 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Whitfield and Rush:

The Geothermal Exchange Organization (GEO), the trade association for the U.S. Geothermal Heat Pump Industry, would like to thank you for the inclusion of Section 4114 in your draft energy efficiency legislation released Tuesday, April 27, 2015.

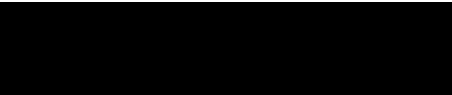
Even though geothermal heat pumps have been deemed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as the most efficient heating and cooling technology available, the technology was unfortunately left out of the definition of clean and renewable energy options to meet federal purchase requirements under Sec. 203 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Your proposed legislation corrects that oversight by ensuring that thermal energy and geothermal heat pumps are finally included in the definition of renewable energy for federal energy purchase requirements. GEO is encouraged by this action, and urges the Subcommittee to adopt the Whitfield Rush language on thermal and geothermal within the broad package of energy efficiency measures that you are now considering.

A legislated definition of clean energy that includes the thermal energy of geothermal heat pumps will add a viable option for federal agencies seeking clean energy, cost savings and pollution abatement, and set an example for the States for their facilities.

GEO welcomes any requests you may have for clarification and information needed during your deliberations. We thank you again for this opportunity to express our appreciation for your inclusion of geothermal heat pumps in Section 4114.

Respectfully,


Douglas A. Dougherty
President and CEO
GEO – The Geothermal Exchange Organization

cc: Members, House Subcommittee on Energy and Power