



AdvaMed

Advanced Medical Technology Association

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November 2, 2017

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Bobby Rush
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: November 2, 2017 Hearing, *The 2017 Hurricane Season: A Review of Emergency Response and Energy Infrastructure Recovery Efforts*

Dear Subcommittee Chairman Upton and Subcommittee Ranking Member Rush:

On behalf of the over 300 manufacturers of medical devices and diagnostics that AdvaMed (the Advanced Medical Technology Association) represents, we commend you for holding this hearing. Restoration of the electrical grid in Puerto Rico is essential for the thousands of employees of medical device manufacturers who live on the island and for manufacturing to return to full capacity. As you work with FEMA and other agencies on the recovery efforts, we request that you stress the importance of restoring electricity to medical device manufacturing facilities and critical suppliers to prevent supply shortages of life saving and life sustaining medical devices.

AdvaMed alone represents more than 20 medical technology companies with over 30 manufacturing facilities in Puerto Rico that account for over 15,000 jobs on the island. Their products help patients worldwide live longer, healthier, and more productive lives and include diabetes care products, cardiovascular, trauma, critical care, orthopedic, and neurological devices, along with advanced cancer diagnostics and therapies.

As you may know, we have been working closely with our agency partners as recovery efforts continue in Puerto Rico following the devastation from Hurricane Maria and greatly appreciate the efforts of FDA, HHS, and FEMA.

The appropriate prioritization of electrical infrastructure repairs to bring medical device manufacturers back onto the grid is essential to ensuring as little disruption as possible to patient care worldwide. As the delivery of medical technology plays a vital role in the entire health care ecosystem, we would be grateful for any assistance you could provide in prioritizing these facilities as electrical infrastructure recovery plans are developed and implemented.

As recovery efforts continue across the island, the companies we represent are committed to the people and the economy of Puerto Rico. Please do not hesitate to let me know if we may be of service in any capacity in your efforts moving forward.

Sincerely,

Scott Whitaker
President & CEO
AdvaMed

