

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 1, 2010

Dear Colleague:

Please join us by becoming a cosponsor of **S. 3021, the Support Renewable Energy Act** to spur renewable energy development. The Support Renewable Energy Act would ensure that a Renewable Electricity Standard does not discriminate against small-scale renewable energy in order to increase our nation's use of renewable energy.

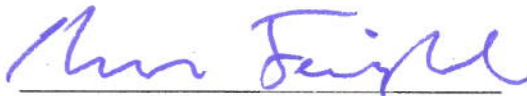
We believe that our legislation would help improve the RES standard to encourage greater use of renewable energy. Specifically, our legislation would modify the leading Senate proposal, in the *American Clean Energy Leadership Act*, to allow electricity providers to utilize direct use renewable energy. This distributed, customer-sited renewable energy could include solar water heating, solar water and space heating or cooling, solar daylight and light-pipe technology, biogas, and ground source geothermal heat pumps.

These renewable energy sources produce direct energy. In other words, this customer-sited renewable energy does not merely convert renewable power into electricity but rather uses the renewable power to directly supply the needed energy source (be it for heating, cooling, or lighting). Direct use renewable energy displaces the need to generate electricity unlike other sources of renewable energy that, while replacing fossil fuels, still must be transmitted as electricity.

These types of renewable energy are cost-effective, can be deployed locally, require no new transmission infrastructure, and can be utilized in areas throughout the country that cannot sustain a commercial-scale power generation facility from other renewable energy sources. Furthermore, they will create much needed American jobs in both manufacturing and construction.

Please join us in supporting this win-win for the environment, small business, and ratepayers. To cosponsor this legislation, please contact Stacia Stanek in Senator Feingold's office (x4-5323) or Andrew Shaw in Senator Ensign's office (x4-6244).

Sincerely,



Russell D. Feingold
United States Senator



John Ensign
United States Senator