



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 13, 2009

RICK PERRY

GOVERNOR

Mr. John D. White
Managing Director
The Wind Alliance
The University of Houston
2013 Science and Engineering Research Center
Houston, Texas 77204

Dear Mr. White:

I am writing in support of your efforts to expand the Wind Alliance. I understand the Alliance is preparing to help the rest of the nation replicate the success we have had here in Texas through an aggressive expansion of the scope of the Alliance's collaboration. I support your plans for a wind corridor coalition focused on harnessing this region's unique collective renewable energy potential; the coalition will continue to diversify the state's energy portfolio and will spur economic development.

I am proud to have supported The University of Houston's successful efforts to win a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). That CRADA focuses on joint development and operation of a state-of-the-art blade testing and certification facility here in Texas. With wind energy production in Texas approaching 10,000 megawatts by the end of 2009, Texas has approved nationally leading plans for \$5 billion in transmission expansion in order to integrate our state's best wind resources into our electricity market. In addition, we have taken aggressive steps to develop the workforce that will be needed to support this growing industry.

Texas is prepared to work with other states that are interested in coordinating their strengths for the achievement of new heights in renewable energy production. I agree that the creation of a wind corridor coalition would uniquely address critical success factors in cost-effective delivery of wind resources to the nation. Under the framework of the Alliance, that coalition would need timely resources from the federal government for its work. I am therefore pleased to see your call for support by the federal government for the facilities infrastructure that the Alliance membership needs to perform its work.

Sincerely,

A large, handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Perry".
Rick Perry
Governor

RP:Imp