

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 12, 2024

The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

The Honorable Gina M. Raimondo
Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Granholm and Secretary Raimondo,

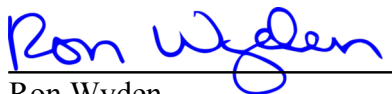
I write to commend your respective departments for the significant strides made in enhancing our nation's infrastructure and economic competitiveness through the implementation of the CHIPS and Science Act, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and the Inflation Reduction Act. In particular, the investments in semiconductor manufacturing continue to prove vital to maintaining our technological leadership, ensuring our national security, and accelerating our economic growth. However, the success of these endeavors depends heavily on the availability of robust and reliable electrical infrastructure.

The increasing energy and transmission demand from these new and expanded semiconductor manufacturing hubs and AI-housing data centers necessitate a concerted effort to modernize and expand our electrical transmission capabilities. To this end, I urge you to coordinate closely to prioritize the Department of Energy's existing opportunities to support transmission expansion within requisite communities that have also received significant investments through the Department of Commerce's programs under the CHIPS and Science Act.

Aligning efforts in this manner will ensure that the energy needs of our advanced technologies industry are met efficiently and effectively, supporting their operational stability and the continued growth of the communities they serve. This strategic collaboration should not only address immediate energy requirements but also promote long-term economic benefits, including job creation, enhanced grid reliability, and accelerating the transition to a clean energy economy.

Working together will allow you to maximize the impact of these federal investments, streamline project implementation, and accelerate the development of a more resilient and advanced energy infrastructure. I appreciate your attention to this critical issue and look forward to your continued leadership in advancing our nation's energy and economic goals.

Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
United States Senator