

BOBBY JINDAL
Governor



State of Louisiana
Office of the Governor

March 23, 2009

The Honorable Steven Chu
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Re: State Energy Program Assurances

Dear Secretary Chu:

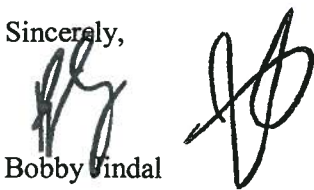
As a condition of receiving our State's share of the \$3.1 billion funding for the State Energy Program (SEP) under the American Recovery and Renewal Act of 2009 (H.R. 1) (ARRA), I am providing the following assurances. I have contacted our public utility commission by letter and requested that they consider additional actions to promote energy efficiency, consistent with the Federal statutory language contained in H.R. 1 and their obligations to maintain just and reasonable rates, while protecting the public.

I have also written to the State Fire Marshal requesting his office to upgrade the Louisiana Commercial Building Energy Conservation Code to comply with State law and State Constitutional requirements, and the statutory language contained in ARRA. Compliance with the ARRA for residential energy codes requires no action, as under State law in Louisiana R.S. 40:1730.21-32, Louisiana has already adopted the most recently published International Residential Code (IRC 2006).

The State will to the extent practicable prioritize the grants toward funding energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. Our State is committed to a robust improvement in energy efficiency and renewable energy, as well as a balanced State energy policy. I want to assure you that, within the limits of my authority, we will move forward in these critical areas.

We look forward to immediate distribution of the Federal SEP funds to permit my State to make progress in energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Sincerely,



Bobby Jindal
Governor

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c: Gil Sperling, Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs
Scott Angelle, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LA DNR)
Lori LeBlanc, Deputy Secretary, LA DNR
T. Michael French, Director, Technology Assessment Div., LA DNR
David Terry, Executive Director, National Association of State Energy Officials

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