

25 June 2008

The Honorable Lamar Alexander  
United States Senate  
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Alexander:

On behalf of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-United States of America (IEEE-USA), I would like to offer our strong support for the goals expressed in your address on “New Manhattan Project for Clean Energy Independence” presented at Oak Ridge National Laboratory on May 9<sup>th</sup>. IEEE-USA concurs with your call for immediate action to reduce U.S. demand for foreign oil and to develop new technologies that can help assure adequate, reliable, economical, and environmentally responsible energy resources.

As you know, the rising global demand for energy resources is creating unprecedented problems including excessive escalation in gasoline prices, growing dependence on volatile regions and a continuing increase in greenhouse gas emissions. These problems are urgent, and already impose huge costs on the US each day that they continue. It is critical that we take strong steps now to achieve energy independence. Expanded research and encouragement of new technologies, especially breakthrough technologies, is essential – from energy sources to energy use and the smart grid needed to connect them.

IEEE-USA’s Energy Policy Committee is conducting an internal workshop on August 21, 2008, to explore the recommendations of your proposal and other energy options. We will provide our structured response subsequent to that workshop. We are encouraged by your leadership and others in the Senate who are attempting to address one of the grand challenges of our generation. If we can be of assistance, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

IEEE-USA advances the public good and promotes the careers and public policy interests of more than 220,000 engineers, scientists and allied professionals who are U.S. members of the IEEE. IEEE-USA is part of the IEEE, the world’s largest technical professional society with 360,000 members in 150 countries. For more information, please contact Bill Williams at (202) 530-8331; [bill.williams@ieee.org](mailto:bill.williams@ieee.org), or go to <http://www.ieeeusa.org>.

Sincerely,



Russell J. Lefevre  
President, IEEE-USA

RJL/ww:mcs

Cc: Jack Wells, Legislative Fellow  
Jessica Holliday, Legislative Assistant