

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 1, 2023

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, D.C 20010

Dear Secretary Granholm:

We urge you to consider Transmission Developers Incorporated's (TDI) application for funding under the Department of Energy's Transmission Facilitation Program. TDI would use these funds to develop the proposed New England Clean Power Link, a 1,000-megawatt bi-directional transmission line that would run from Canada, underneath Lake Champlain, to existing transmission infrastructure in Ludlow, Vermont and down to Southern New England. We strongly support the development of new transmission capacity, such as the New England Clean Power Link, which would help address New England's annual winter grid reliability issues and help the region achieve its renewable energy goals.

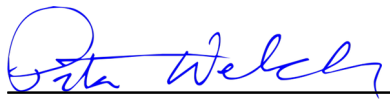
New England has long struggled with winter energy reliability. In December 2022, during Winter Storm Elliot, our region experienced a region-wide, unanticipated capacity deficiency when power generators were unable to fulfill their obligations. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has highlighted the importance of addressing energy reliability issues in the region, most recently at a September 2022 summit in Burlington, Vermont. TDI's line would be part of the solution. A consistent source of additional electricity flowing into New England would help stabilize the grid.

New England is also committed to making the shift to renewable energy. Five of the six New England states have set goals to lower emissions at least 80% by 2050, aiming to reduce reliance on fossil fuels over the coming years and decades. The New England Clean Power Link would provide the region with greater access to renewable hydroelectricity while also allowing offshore wind power to travel back up to northern New England and Canada once it is sited. The line would support our clean energy transition now and into the future.

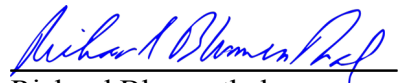
It is critical that transmission projects be designed and implemented with close, proactive consultation with affected communities. TDI has spent years fostering relationships with the affected Vermont communities and has gained support from many stakeholders as well as the Vermont state government. TDI has demonstrated its commitment to working with Vermont as the transmission line is built and for years to come as it continues to operate. This includes providing \$263 million to clean up Lake Champlain and \$109 million for Vermont renewable programs over 40 years.

The New England Clean Power Link has the capacity to provide much-needed support for New England's electric grid. New transmission capacity will help us to address the grid reliability challenges we currently face, as well as the problems we will confront in the future caused by a warming climate. Thank you for giving this application the careful consideration it deserves. If we can provide further evidence of our support for this proposal, please do not hesitate to contact us.

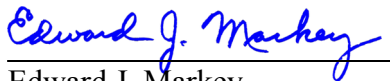
Sincerely,



Peter Welch
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator