

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 16, 2017

The Honorable Rick Perry
Secretary of Energy
Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Perry:

I write to express my concern about your decision to eliminate the Department of Energy's Office of International Climate and Technology (OICT). Eliminating this office will harm American workers and businesses and have a negative impact on public health and the future of our planet.

The Office of International Climate and Technology plays an important role in motivating foreign nations to advance their clean energy policies. Its mission benefits U.S. workers and businesses because the United States is a global leader in clean energy technologies. To provide just one example of the value OICT has generated for American businesses and workers, in 2015, the office helped India establish energy efficiency standards for lighting and create a program to incentivize Indian consumers to purchase LED light bulbs. The scale of the benefits for U.S. workers and businesses of having India adopt such standards is enormous—India represents a consumer market of more than 1.3 billion people and GE, a company headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts and the inventor of the LED, holds more than 300 patents related to this lighting technology.

When you were sworn in as Secretary of Energy, you expressed your support for an energy policy that created jobs and grew our economy, but in eliminating OICT you have taken an action that is at odds with this goal. Creating opportunities for American businesses abroad—as OICT has done—creates jobs for Americans right here at home. Your shortsighted decision to eliminate the Department of Energy's Office of International Climate and Technology will mean fewer opportunities for U.S. businesses and fewer jobs for American workers going forward.

I urge you to keep in place OICT and benefits it brings to America by partnering with countries around the world.

Sincerely,



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator