

September 24, 2015

Governor Dayton, Chair Garofalo, Chair Marty, and Members Legislative Energy Commission:

As the Vice President of Operations at Blattner Energy, I am proud to be part of Minnesota's clean energy economy. Since 2000, employment in Minnesota's clean energy economy has increased by 78 percent, providing more than 15,300 well-paying jobs as of 2014. If Minnesota maximizes its clean energy potential, we stand to create more than 35,000 new jobs and over \$2 billion in wages over the next 15 years.

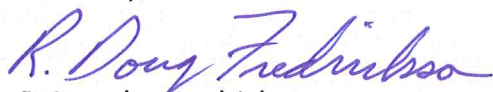
This is especially apparent in Central Minnesota, which added roughly 1,400 jobs since 2000 – a 191 percent increase, which is especially impressive compared to a statewide job growth increase of 11 percent during the same period. These are well-paying jobs – earning an average of \$71,000 versus the state average wage of \$50,100.

There's a reason that this state is a great place to grow companies like Blattner Energy. Minnesota has long advanced policies that have made this growth possible. State policymaking sends clear messages to investors – is a state open for business or not? Minnesota's early start and continued support of clean energy policies has established a competitive advantage – businesses and family-sustaining jobs are growing here because Minnesota has shown investors that it's serious about its clean energy economy.

Please support a strong State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the Clean Power Plan. Minnesota's targets under the Clean Power Plan are in line with what utilities, businesses, and customers are already planning to do. A strong SIP is an opportunity to prioritize affordable energy and energy efficiency initiatives that will move us closer to an "all of the above" energy system – a system that will mitigate risk over the long-term and continue to grow Minnesota jobs.

I hope to continue working with you to increase clean energy's role in our all of the above energy mix, create Minnesota jobs, and reduce energy costs for consumers.

Sincerely,



R. Douglas Fredrickson  
Blattner Energy