

---

Legislative Energy Commission  
10 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

September 24, 2015

Governor Dayton, Chair Garofalo, Chair Marty, and Members of the Commission:

The Clean Power Plan provides Minnesota with an outstanding opportunity to showcase leadership and forward-looking policy making in the production and consumption of energy. A transition to a cleaner, smarter, distributed and more sustainable energy system will continue to strengthen our State's competitive position while providing good-paying jobs, more vibrant communities, and a healthier environment for all of us.

As the President of VerdeNero LLC, a small technology consultancy firm, I have extensive experience working with companies in the development and commercialization of new technologies that are less carbon intensive while striving to maintain competitive economics. As a past appointee to the former Governor Pawlenty Clean Energy Collaborative, I understand the energy needs of our State and I know that we can create cleaner technologies that foster additional economic development and job creation.

The recent drop in the prices of oil and gas, as well as the price of renewables, has put Minnesota in a unique position to lead on smart energy policy. As stated in "Seize the Day," a piece of The Economist's editorial board, we are now in a position of energy abundance. The increased access to oil, natural gas, wind energy, solar energy, and bioenergy have transitioned us from talking about the availability of adequate resources to that of managing energy abundance. The challenge ahead is to manage such abundance as it offers the unique opportunity to assess the external cost associated with the continued reliance on fossil fuel without the fear of short-term adverse impact on the economy. The goals of the Clean Power Plan are consistent with these objectives which wholeheartedly support. I hope that policymakers will make a similar effort in embracing these objectives.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Luca Zullo'.

Luca Zullo, Ph.D.  
VerdeNero LLC  
[luca.zullo@verdenero.com](mailto:luca.zullo@verdenero.com)  
651-270-6478

---