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APPROPRIATIONS
RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY

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RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT,
THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE, AND
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

June 28, 2010

Marc Gerken
President/CEO
American Municipal Power
1111 Shrock Rd., Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43229

Dear Marc:

I would like to congratulate you, the City of Hamilton, American Municipal Power and all the parties that have been involved with this project in one way or another over the many years. Without your hard work and commitment, today's celebration for the ground breaking of the Meldahl Hydroelectric Project would not have been possible. Thank you. I wish I could be there with you for this momentous occasion.

I was proud to do my part in pushing the project forward on the federal level. Over the last couple of years I worked closely with my fellow congressional colleagues in both supporting the project through the licensing process at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, as well as pushing the Army Corps of Engineers to review permit applications in a timely matter. It pleases me that those efforts were successful and that the project can finally begin to break ground and head towards fruition.

This is a project for which Ohio and Kentucky can be proud. Once online, Meldahl will provide up to 105 MW of reliable, clean, and affordable energy to its consumers. The development and construction of this project will serve the public interest and help meet demands for energy generated from renewable energy. Further, with the commencement here today of this approximately \$473 million project will come much needed jobs – some 200-400 employees during construction and 7-9 workers once the plant is on line.

As Congress debates energy issues and the increasing emphasis on energy security and the development of renewable sources of power, Ohio can continue to lead by example through its ability to safely utilize all of its available sources of energy. More importantly, the City of Hamilton has proved to be a leader in this endeavor by fighting to construct this hydroelectric project and meet the goal of expanding an environmentally-friendly, renewable source of energy for the Ohio Valley.

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I have long said that if our nation wants to safely and effectively meet our future energy needs, then we need to find ways to harmonize our energy, economy, and environmental goals. I think that the Meldahl project will be an excellent example that I can point to when people ask me for an example of how we carry out that task.

Once again, congratulations on the groundbreaking and I look forward to the completion of the Meldahl Hydroelectric Project. The efforts of all who made this day possible are appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George V. Voinovich". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "G".

George V. Voinovich
United States Senator