

June 27, 2006 - Slaughter Authors Letter of Support on Behalf of Huntley IGCC Repowering Project

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, June 27, 2005

Slaughter Authors Letter of Support on Behalf of Huntley IGCC Repowering Project

Washington, DC - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Ranking Member of the House Rules Committee, today authored a letter in support of NRG's application to the US Department of Energy (DOE) for IRS Section 48A tax credits for the proposed Huntley IGCC Repowering Project in Tonawanda, New York.

"From our environment to our labor market to our quality of life, our community has much to gain from this initiative," Rep. Slaughter said. "Securing this tax credit is about moving this project forward, and moving Western New York forward with it."

Last week, NRG announced plans to construct a new, clean-coal plant, and to install pollution controls on existing generating units at the Huntley Facility in Tonawanda. The tax credit Rep. Slaughter is advocating for is necessary to offset the significant \$1.5 billion investment needed for the completion of NRG's plans.

The project is expected to have a significant local economic impact, creating 1,000 temporary construction jobs and up to

100 permanent jobs. It will also increase the power available to Western New Yorkers, and do so in an environmentally-friendly way.

Because of its numerous benefits, the project has already received support from a wide array of officials and members of the business and labor communities.

Rep. Slaughter's letter was sent a letter to Melissa Robe of the National Energy Technology Laboratory.

The complete text of Rep. Slaughter's letter is included below:

Melissa Robe

National Energy Technology Laboratory

3610 Collins Ferry Road

Morgantown, WV 26507

Dear Ms. Robe,

I am writing to express my support for NRG's application to the US Department of Energy (DOE) for IRS Section 48A tax credits for the proposed Huntley IGCC Repowering Project in Tonawanda, New York.

NRG plans to construct a new clean coal plant at the Huntley facility utilizing Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) technology. They also plan to install major environmental controls on the existing generating units. This \$1.5 billion investment project is estimated to create 1,000 temporary construction jobs and 100 permanent jobs. It will also provide an additional 452 megawatts of power and use coal sourced from domestic mines. The project is supported by the City of Tonawanda and the State of New York, as well as local union leaders. In addition, several local businesses have expressed interest in using by-products of the IGCC process, particularly carbon dioxide emissions that will be collected by the unit instead of being released into the air.

As I understand the project plans, the new Huntley power station will produce more and cleaner electric power, have better efficiency, and create jobs. All of these aspects are consistent with local, state and national public policy goals. I, therefore, urge the DOE to approve the application for Section 48A tax credit eligibility.

I appreciate your attention to this request and will await your response.

Sincerely,

Louise M. Slaughter

Member of Congress

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