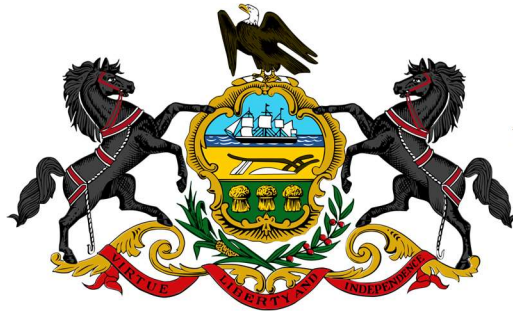


**NATALIE MIHALEK, MEMBER**  
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November 4, 2022

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm  
Secretary of Energy  
United States Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Granholm,

We write to you as members of Pennsylvania's southwestern delegation to share our bipartisan support and desire for further hydrogen development in Pennsylvania. The hills and valleys west of the Appalachian range have long been the heart of the Commonwealth's manufacturing and energy infrastructure known the world over, and the future growth and success of the state would be greatly benefitted through the establishment of a regional clean hydrogen hub in Southwestern PA authorized through the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* (PL. 117-58).

In preparation for coming developments in hydrogen generation technologies and utilization the Commonwealth has positioned itself for this opportunity through legislative action, stakeholder outreach, and fact-finding efforts. We have, in a bipartisan and well-informed manner, pledged ourselves and our State to advancing the production and utilization of hydrogen as a fuel to drive Pennsylvania's future.

On October 26<sup>th</sup> the House and Senate passed HB 1059 to encourage, through tax incentives, further hydrogen utilization and development within the state. This legislation was passed following multiple public hearing conducted by the House and Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committees where the legislature learned that we have the ideal infrastructure, existing capacity to generate and synthesize clean hydrogen energy, and the necessary tradesmen and women to construct and maintain these advanced facilities. Now, we are excited to see the means by which industry will employ our hydrogen generation and utilization potential.

In May of this year the Administration, along with 24 industry, organized labor, and nonprofit stakeholders jointly signed a declaration sharing their commitment to pursuing a new energy ecosystem with hydrogen at its core. The signatories of this declaration have made their desires public, and intend to utilize our existing energy production dominance, our diverse and skilled workforce, and natural carbon-storing geographic formations to create a hub for hydrogen development and carbon sequestration within Pennsylvania. The state government, private industry, and nonprofits intend to jointly collaborate to achieve our shared hydrogen goals.

Southwestern Pennsylvania is uniquely poised to establish a large-scale hydrogen hub. Not only do we have the potential for massive production, but also the means to utilize the hydrogen readily for energy generation, manufacturing, and to fuel vehicles and industrial equipment. The Shell Pennsylvania Petrochemical Complex, which started operation this year, is a prime example of the capacity of Pennsylvanian industry, our workforce, and our ideal location between the East Coast and the American Mid-west. Large manufacturers have been encouraged to utilize our brownfields and historic mills to bring the Commonwealth into a green and prosperous future, and we are thankful to see our resources and lands being well utilized.

Though our extensive oil and gas production and reserves poise the Commonwealth to be an excellent hub for blue hydrogen, the State has a diverse portfolio of energy resources that can support all manner of hydrogen production. We are the largest net energy exporter in the union, and even as our energy production grows year-over-year our net emissions continue to fall thanks to our commitment to utilizing the most advanced technologies, fuels, and best practices within our energy generation industry.


We aspire to continue on our trajectory of increasing energy generation while lowering net emissions, and the establishment of a southwestern PA clean hydrogen hub will pave the way towards our State and Nation's future goals. The people of Pennsylvania and the industries that call our state home are willing, able, and ready to further develop and expand our energy economy while simultaneously bettering our environment and the lives of all Americans.

As members of Pennsylvania's southwestern delegation, we are intimately aware of the history of our region and the immense importance it holds for the success and well-being of the entire Commonwealth, our neighboring states, and the nation. The prospect of a regional clean hydrogen hub holds untold potential for our residents, our industries, our air quality, and the quality of life for all Pennsylvanians. We sincerely look forward to seeing the growth of clean hydrogen within our region, and welcome further collaboration with the Department of Energy in their efforts to develop and promote these technologies where they can best be utilized.

Sincerely,



Natalie Mihalek  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
40<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



George Dunbar  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
56<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Nickolas Pisciotano  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
38<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Joshua Kail  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
15<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



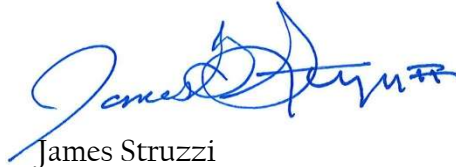
Dan Deasy  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
27<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Robert Matzie  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
16<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Ryan Warner  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
52<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District



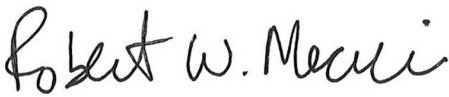
James Struzzi  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
62<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District



Emily Kinkead  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
20<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Eric Nelson  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
57<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Robert Mercuri  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
28<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Bud Cook  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
49<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Eric Davanzo  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
58<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



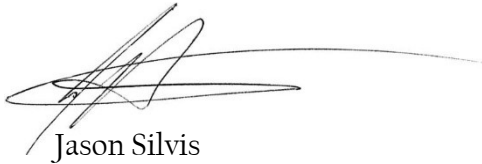
Brandon Markosek  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
25<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



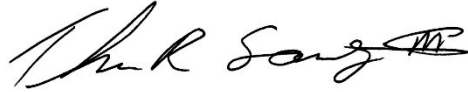
Rich Irvin  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
81<sup>st</sup> Legislative District



Jesse Topper  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
78<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Jason Silvis  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
55<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



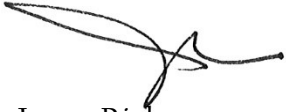
Thomas Sankey  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
74<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



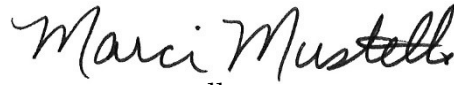
Martell Covington  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Timothy O'Neal  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
48<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



James Rigby  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
71<sup>st</sup> Legislative District



Marci Mustello  
Pennsylvania State Representative  
11<sup>th</sup> Legislative District