

January 19, 2017

Hon. Lisa Murkowski, Chairwoman
Senate Committee on Energy and
Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Hon. Maria Cantwell, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Energy and
Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

The Hispanic Leadership Fund is, a non-partisan advocacy organization dedicated to strengthening working families by promoting common-sense public policy solutions that foster individual liberty, opportunity, and prosperity. As president of HLF, I write to express our support for Gov. Rick Perry for Secretary of Energy.

Governor Perry served as a three-term governor of Texas, which is widely considered as "The Energy State." Texas has been well-known for energy production for the past century since it is a major source of oil and gas comes from. It also has lignite deposits, a large and growing wind industry, and two major nuclear power plants.

During his time as Governor, Texas natural gas production increased by 50% while its oil production soared by 260%, returning to levels not seen since the 1970s. During Perry's last five years as governor, thriving oil and gas exploration and extraction helped Texas to lead the nation in new job creation. Gov. Perry also expanded the use of clean energy and made Texas a leader in that subsector. If confirmed, Governor Perry will continue to promote the use of natural gas and other American energy resources that will decrease emissions, cut the price of energy and grow our economic output.

With his record of creating 2.2 million jobs in Texas and experience in energy policy, we believe that Governor Perry is the right fit for this cabinet position. We respectfully urge the committee to take our statement into consideration and vote to confirm Governor Rick Perry as Energy Secretary.

Sincerely,



Mario H. Lopez
President