

Dear Mayor Emanuel,

As you outlined in your speech in Millennium Park, "*The decisions we make in the next two to three years will determine what our cities look like in the next 20 to 30 years.*"

We at the **Chicago Advanced Energy Group** wholeheartedly agree. We applaud your efforts to decrease emissions and reduce climate, and encourage the city to continue to lead the national effort by:

- Provide ongoing support for existing energy efficiency programs and strategically implement new ones that maximize the reduction of emissions.
- Lay the groundwork for private/public partnership for large-scale projects.
- Emphasize the efficiency and reliability of key institutions (airport, museums, water facilities, municipal buildings, etc).
- Continue to work with local utilities to aggressively implement the regional smart grid system.

Critical actions that can be implemented to further reduce the city's carbon footprint include but are not limited to:

- Increasing funding, awareness and participation in utility energy efficiency programs.
- Incentivize the adoption of renewables and clean-tech projects in the commercial and residential sectors.
- Increase renewable energy and efficiency grants, tax credits and other incentive programs.
- Expand the Energy Star Portfolio Manager mandatory enrollment program for small-mid size buildings.
- Update and enforce existing building code requirements.
- Fully implement PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) for Cook County.

To truly meet the city's goal of sustained emissions reduction, these and other actions must take the local utilities' business models and fiduciary duties into consideration. Unless the utilities are willing and enthusiastic participants, the realization of a clean, smart, and sustainable energy future will be longer and more challenging to achieve.

We stand ready to participate and are eager provide support in our areas of expertise.

Sincerely,

Table #2,

Chicago Advanced Energy Group