ADRIAN M. FENTY
MAYOR

February 26, 2009

The Honorable Steven Chu
Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

RE: State Energy Program Assurances

Dear Secretary Chu,

As a condition of receiving the District of Columbia's share of the $3.1 billion funding for the State Energy Program (SEP) under the American Recovery and Renewal Act of 2009 (H.R. 1)(ARRA), I am providing the following assurances:

I have written to George Hawkins, the Director of the District Department of the Environment, the agency that includes the District of Columbia's Energy Office, and requested that Director Hawkins consider additional actions to promote energy efficiency consistent with the Federal statutory language contained in H.R. 1, and to reach out to the Public Service Commission (the entity with ratemaking authority) and encourage it to implement policies to ensure that utility financial incentives are aligned with helping customers use energy more efficiently.

I have also written to Councilmember Mary Cheh, Chairman of the Committee on Government Operations and the Environment of the Council of the District of Columbia, and requested that the Council consider actions to improve building energy codes, consistent with District of Columbia law requirements, and to consider the statutory language contained in ARRA.

We are prioritizing our energy investments to take advantage of existing programs and expand programs where appropriate. The District of Columbia is committed to a robust improvement in energy efficiency and renewable energy, as well as a balanced District of Columbia energy policy. I want to assure you that, within the limits of my authority, we will move forward in these critical areas.

We look forward to immediate distribution of the Federal SEP funds to permit the District of Columbia to make progress in energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adrian M. Fenty, Mayor

cc: Gil Sperling, Director, Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs, U.S. Department of Energy
George Hawkins, Director, District Department of the Environment
David Terry, Executive Director, National Association of State Energy Officials