



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 30, 2012

Dear Better Buildings Case Competition Participants,

On behalf of the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), I am pleased to officially welcome you and your school to the Better Buildings Case Competition.

Your participation in the Competition demonstrates your dedication to reducing the energy footprint of the U.S. commercial building stock. Your efforts will help demonstrate to the marketplace and the American public that implementing energy efficiency not only reduces energy use, but also saves money and bolsters the nation's economy while protecting our natural environment—a win-win outcome for all involved.

As you know, the Better Buildings Case Competition supports President Obama's Better Buildings Challenge—an effort to reduce the energy consumption of commercial buildings by 20 percent by 2020. Additionally, the Better Building Challenge aims to catalyze private-sector investment and innovation in the buildings efficiency sector. In doing so, the Department of Energy and its Challenge Partners are developing "models for success"—market-ready implementation models comprised of scalable and replicable solutions to the barriers faced by building owners as they adopt energy efficient practices in their commercial building stocks. We are all excited to learn of your ideas and solutions to these barriers at the Competition's final workshop on March 2, 2012.

I share Secretary Chu's confidence that we have employed our nation's best and brightest in tackling some of the most stubborn barriers to energy efficiency adoption and investment. Again, thank you for your commitment and for your leadership. Best of luck to all of you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Hogan".

Kathleen Hogan
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency
U.S. Department of Energy

