

From: Familiar, Gerardo
Sent: Tue, 25 Mar 2025 15:39:14 +0000
To: Winberg, Steven
Cc: Tatulyan, Kevin; Cordes, Mary
Subject: [EXTERNAL] DOE Grant Concerns

Hello Secretary Winberg,

Thank you very much for speaking with me in Houston at CERAWEEK. I am reaching out about one of Chemours' existing DOE grants that I mentioned when we met. I have seen the news that Secretary Wright is looking at existing merit-awarded grants for termination, and I wanted to explain why our project is important to the United States and why it should be allowed to continue.

- Chemours' project, "Durable, High-Performance Membranes for Proton Exchange Membrane Water Electrolysis" (Award No. DE-EE0011311, funding through BIL), supports the R&D work to make membranes more advanced, so they can be used to enable US leadership in hydrogen energy generation but also the advances are expected to translate to other applications such as flow battery energy storage and chlor-alkali (chlorine and caustic). These membranes are durable, and are essential to hydrogen production, which supports President Trump's Energy Dominance agenda. If the work under this grant is successful, we would look to commercialize this production likely at an existing manufacturing site. Chemours has major production facilities in North Carolina and West Virginia. These investments would further increase our manufacturing presence in America.
- Additionally, Chemours is the last domestic manufacturer of ionomers – an essential product that feeds into energy generation, energy storage, semiconductor manufacturing, medical equipment devices and chlorine/caustic production. Ionomers are the foundation for our Nafion™ production that spans facilities in NC and WV. This critical R&D work to maintain our position as the only domestic producer of ionomers is crucial, so that the United States does not cede its market position to Chinese competitors.
- The products we are producing, Nafion™ membranes, are also an essential component to chlor-alkali production. Through these membranes, Chemours plays a key role in producing enough chlorine domestically to treat drinking water for Americans.

Secretary Winberg, is there a way for you to weigh in on the "termination list" process and ask that Chemours' project be allowed to continue? It would be detrimental to the larger energy industry and DOE's pursuit of energy dominance.

I am happy to discuss further if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Gerardo

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