

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

September 5, 2023

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave.,
S.W. Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Granholm,

We write regarding the possibility of the Department of Energy administering energy rebates funded through President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and the Investment in Jobs Act (IIJA) via either a direct federally managed program or locally managed programs at the county and city levels. We believe that implementing this option promptly would be a benefit to our districts by ensuring that Floridians can access millions of dollars in federal energy rebates.

The Department has communicated that only state and territory energy offices are presently eligible to apply for much of these program funds. Regrettably, it's our understanding that this restriction denies millions of Floridians access to approximately \$346 million in energy-efficiency improvement rebates and energy-efficient home appliance purchases over the next ten years. The State of Florida has failed to fund state energy programs that would have administered federal rebates made available through the IRA and IIJA. Following this funding decision, the state inexplicably withdrew its application to these federal energy rebate programs, leaving Floridians without access to millions of dollars in rebates given the Department's existing program application guidelines.

These rebates stand to assist families in need who are looking to upgrade their homes with more energy-efficient appliances, accelerating the nation's transition towards clean energy. To safeguard Floridians' access to this vital assistance, we hope that the Department will consider administering these rebates either through a direct federally managed program or through locally managed programs, supplementing state and territory-administered initiatives. We believe it would benefit our districts if the Department were to take swift action on this matter, as the aforementioned energy rebate programs are only available for the next ten years. By broadening pathways for application to rebate programs, it's our opinion that the Department would be aiding thousands of families and actively addressing the nation's energy crisis. We thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



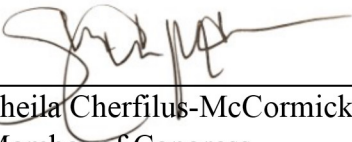
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