COMMITTEES: FINANCE HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 19, 2023

Kelly Cummins Acting Director Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue SW Washington, DC 20585

Dear Acting Director Cummins:

I write in support of the application submitted by Mineral Basin Solar Power, LLC (Mineral Basin, LLC) to the Department of Energy's Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED) Clean Energy Demonstration Program on Current and Former Mine Land (CEML) Grant Program. I urge you to give this application full and fair consideration.

I understand that Mineral Basin, LLC is requesting \$105,373,180 for the Mineral Basin Solar Project to address documented barriers to locating solar facilities on former mine lands, while positioning the Project as a model for future mine-land located clean energy developments. I am informed that the project is historic in scope and scale, including an \$800,000,000 capital investment projected to create hundreds of clean energy jobs in a nine-county region of North Central Pennsylvania. If successful, this project could bring the opportunities of the green energy economy to the very coalfields that powered the industrial development of our nation.

I further understand that the project's footprint encompasses 229 permitted mines, representing both active and former mine lands. The project is positioned in a region with approximately 1000MW additional projects in development by the project's parent company, Swift Current Management Services, LLC (Swift Current). Swift Current informs me that these projects will produce enough energy to power roughly 70,000 homes each year. Swift Current further informs me that they have engaged with local stakeholders to develop a project that thoughtfully considers the workforce development needs associated with the project.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration. Please include this letter in the official record of the application. Consistent with all applicable laws, rules and regulations, I also respectfully request that you keep me informed of the status of this grant application. Finally, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me or my staff at (202) 224-6851.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Casey, Jr. United States Senator