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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
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May 19, 2015

Mr. Bill Johnson, President and CEO  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
400 West Summitt Hill Drive, ET 12A  
Knoxville, TN 37902

Dear Mr. Johnson,

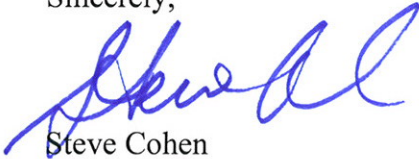
I write to you in support of the construction of new distribution substations and an 80MW<sub>AC</sub> single-axis tracking solar generation facility at the Naval Support Activity (NSA) Mid-South facility in Millington, Tennessee. This solar energy project is an important military economic development project that would provide a comprehensive and cost-effective solution to address the Department of the Navy's (DON) infrastructure challenges to achieving its renewable and energy security goals at the Millington location. As you know, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA); Memphis Light, Gas & Water; the Millington Industrial Development Board; and Silicon Ranch Corporation have worked together to brainstorm this solution, which will not only benefit the Navy but also advance renewable energy in Tennessee and support the local economy.

The DON has established a series of security goals that have been supported by the city of Millington and surrounding communities. However, significant challenges exist that threaten the ability of the Navy to accomplish its goals in Millington. These include upgrading infrastructure capabilities to interconnect new generation facilities, creating the redundancy requirements at the NSA Mid-South facility, ensuring the electrical infrastructure does not limit new investments and jobs, and improving reliability in the distribution network. The 80MW<sub>AC</sub> single-axis tracking solar generation facility project includes significant private investment in new infrastructure to address these challenges.

In consideration of this project, the economic benefit must be included in any analysis. The NSA Mid-South facility provides an annual economic impact of over \$330 million to the region and is important to the state of Tennessee's economic health. The 80MW<sub>AC</sub> single-axis tracking solar generation facility project will assist the local community with industry recruitment, serve as an important economic development retention project for the Navy and support the nearly 8,000 people associated with the Millington facility.

The investments through the 80MW<sub>AC</sub> single-axis tracking solar generation facility project will assist the NSA Mid-South facility meet the Navy's renewable and energy security goals and increase grid reliability in the area, which is of the utmost importance to the project's stakeholders. Additionally, investments in solar energy projects will encourage job recruitment and retention in Millington and surrounding Tennessee areas, thereby boosting employment in the state. I am pleased to learn about the project and all of the benefits it will bring to Millington and surrounding communities, the Navy, TVA's ratepayers, and the entire state of Tennessee. I express my strong support of TVA's role in making this project a success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Cohen", written in a cursive style.

Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress