

# DIGITAL CLIMATE ALLIANCE



November 18, 2022

The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Granholm:

The Digital Climate Alliance (DCA) would like to congratulate the Biden-Harris Administration on the enactment of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The IRA provides unprecedented funding for the Department of Energy (DOE) and affords the federal government an opportunity to leverage and utilize digital technologies in helping the U.S. achieve its climate and clean energy goals.

Twenty-first century problems need twenty-first century solutions. The DCA is a coalition of companies developing and utilizing digital technologies and tools to reduce their environmental impacts and those of their customers. The Alliance's goal is to promote using digital technologies and tools to solve climate, water, and energy challenges that impact economic development, business growth, social well-being, and ecosystem health.

The IRA provides historic levels of funding for the federal government to advance climate action. However, it will be impossible for the U.S. to achieve the IRA's clean energy and decarbonization goals at the speed and scale needed without deploying and leveraging digital technologies. As the DOE implements provisions in the IRA, the DCA looks forward to collaborating with the Department to utilize digital climate solutions.

The U.S. set a goal to reach [100% carbon pollution-free power sector by 2035](#), which will require accelerating decarbonization of the U.S.'s electric grid and developing a more connected and intelligent electricity infrastructure system. The IRA provides funding to the DOE to assist with the construction and modification of electric transmission facilities and to facilitate the siting of interstate electricity transmission lines. Moving forward, the DCA encourages the DOE to utilize digital technologies to assist with the development of new electric distribution facilities, which will improve the reliability, flexibility, resilience, and efficiency of the grid.

Grid virtualization will also create more efficient electric transmission facilities and plays a key role in successful grid modernization efforts. One way to encourage grid virtualization is to deploy smart substations that rely on information digitalization and information sharing to automatically complete basic functions, such as data collection, measurement, computation, monitoring, and security of grid systems.

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As the DOE implements the IRA, the DCA would like to meet with the Department to collaborate and explore additional opportunities to utilize digital technologies to accelerate decarbonization of the U.S.'s electricity infrastructure systems.

Respectfully,

Digital Climate Alliance

## **Digital Climate Alliance**

Autodesk, Inc., Baker Hughes, Black & Veatch, Dell Technologies, Enel, Intel Corporation, Johnson Controls, Nautilus Data Technologies, Project Canary, Schneider Electric, Trane Technologies, Water Foundry