

Floor Statement of Rep. Jerry McNerney
Safe Climate Caucus
May 8, 2013

Thank you Mr. Speaker,

I rise today on behalf of the Safe Climate Caucus to highlight the fact that investing in sustainable energy technologies won't only move the nation toward a clean energy future, but it will also grow our economy.

In order to prevent the worst impacts of climate change, we must transition to lower carbon energy systems. Making the necessary investments in the nation's smart grid is one way to facilitate this transition.

Smart Grid investments are already producing real economic benefits. The Department of Energy recently released a report on "The Economic Impact of Recovery Act Investments" in the Smart Grid." The report found that for every million dollars of direct spending on smart grid, the nation's GDP increased by 2.5 million dollars. In addition, a wide variety of industrial sectors have benefitted from these smart grid investments.

Mr. Speaker, climate change is a real threat to our way of life, and there is no time to waste. Fortunately, if we take action now, we can cut pollution while growing our economy.