



One Region — One Economy — One Voice

318 Main Street, Suite 400
Evansville, Indiana 47708
Phone 812-423-2020 Fax 812-423-2080
www.southwestindiana.org

February 26, 2010

The Honorable Richard Lugar
United States Senate
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lugar,

On behalf of the Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana, and the four counties we represent, I am writing to respectfully request your support for fiscal year 2011 appropriations for two projects that are vital to the economic recovery of our region.

In the wake of the closure of the Whirlpool Facility in Evansville and the loss of 1,100 jobs, the Economic Development Coalition, is developing a plan to establish a Thermal Management Technology Research & Commercialization Park on the Whirlpool site, building on the world-class research and development conducted at the Product Development Center. As part of that effort the Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana is seeking:

- \$500,000 to support planning focused on stabilizing the region's economy by leveraging the existing workforce talent and knowledge base at Whirlpool's Product Development Center; and, analyze market opportunities that exist around thermal management technology; and
- \$3.15 million to modify utility infrastructure such as wastewater, storm water, gas and electric currently serving the Whirlpool site, as well as construct an internal roadway system to ensure that the Park will have adequate infrastructure to support tenant needs.

These projects are key to the redevelopment of the Whirlpool site, which is vital to the economic recovery of our region.

In this era of fiscal responsibility, I know you must manage many competing priorities. I want to thank you in advance for your consideration of these requests and for your continued support of our region. Please let me know if you have any questions or if additional information would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Greg Wathen
President and CEO