

June 7, 2019

The Honorable Rick Perry
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Perry:

I write on behalf of my constituents with ELIXSYS, Inc. regarding their competitive grant application, entitled "Demonstration of Rare Earth Elements, Critical Materials and Supplemental Industrial Material Recovery from Coal Ash." The application is in response to the "Process Scale-Up and Optimization/Efficiency Improvements for Rare Earth Elements (REE) and Critical Materials (CM) Recovery from United States Coal-Based Resources (DE-FOA-0002003)" Funding Opportunity Announcement by the U.S. Department of Energy National Energy Technology Laboratory (DOE-NETL).

It is my understanding this funding will help ELIXSYS build factories to deploy its technology to recover REE, CM, and other industrial minerals without waste. I am told their production system eliminates coal ash waste by extracting valuable minerals and technology metals. My constituents inform me the factories will be built in economically distressed areas and will help replace lost coal mining jobs. Innovations in energy and natural resource development are vital to Kentucky's economic growth, and the applicants believe they have an effective solution.

As our nation continues on a path of unsustainable debt, it is more important than ever that we in Congress, and you in the Administration, work to ensure every tax dollar is spent wisely. It is with this in mind that I draw your attention to ELIXSYS's application, which I believe merits your full and fair review.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



MITCH McCONNELL
UNITED STATES SENATOR

MM/sd