

DRAM

DEMAND RESPONSE *and* ADVANCED METERING Coalition

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Smart Meter Coalition Hails Passage by Congress of Incentives for Smart Meters and Smart Grid Technologies

Washington, October 3, 2008 – The Demand Response and Advanced Metering Coalition (DRAM) today hailed the passage by Congress of a measure which will put the country on a faster path towards deployment of smart electric meters and the development of a smart electricity grid.

The provision establishes a change in the depreciation rate for smart meters and smart grid technologies from the current 20 year period to a 10 year period. The provision was passed today as part of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 and signed into law by President Bush.

“As the nation moves forward to modernize its electricity system, getting the new smart technologies in place is fundamental”, said Dan Pfeiffer, Vice President of Regulatory Affairs for Itron, Inc. and a member of the DRAM Executive Committee. “The accelerated depreciation for meters and other technologies that Congress has passed today will help make the transition to new technologies faster, less costly and more certain.”

Pfeiffer added, “We are especially pleased as a Coalition to see final passage. DRAM initiated the effort to put this provision in place a number of years ago and it is gratifying to see that our educational efforts have resulted in Congress as well as other stakeholders recognizing the benefits of smart meters and smart grid technologies. We hope that this will be the first of many supportive steps that Congress takes to help advance the use of demand response and smart technologies.

Pfeiffer noted that DRAM hopes that Congress, as it seeks to address issues like climate change, will recognize that “smart meters are green meters” in that they provide consumers with information and feedback that they have never had before when it comes to electricity – information that has been demonstrated to lead to consumers becoming more energy efficient and more environmentally conscious overall.

Members of the DRAM Coalition include: Members of the DRAM Coalition include: Aclara, Cellnet + Hunt, Comverge, CPower, Direct Energy, Eka Systems, Elster Electricity, eMeter, EnergySolve, EnerNOC, IBM, Ice Energy, Itron, Landis + Gyr, Orion Energy Systems, Sensus Metering Systems, Silver Spring Networks, SureGrid, SmartSynch, Tendril, Trilliant Networks, and Ziphany.

For more information, go to www.dramcoalition.org.

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