



The UNIVERSITY of VERMONT  
**School of Engineering**

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Dr. Henry Tan  
School of Engineering  
University of Aberdeen  
United Kingdom

July 23, 2013

Re: Impact of the International Symposium on Energy

Dear Dr. Tan,

I am writing to thank you for the enjoyable and informative conference – the 6th International Symposium on Energy Challenges and Mechanics – that you hosted in August 2016. As you will recall, I delivered an Invited Lecture entitled "Improving electric distribution system performance with dynamic ampacity: a study of environmental influence on underground cables". I also had the pleasure of moderating a session on Smart Grid during the conference.

I found the conference to be well organized and very enjoyable. I particularly enjoyed the excellent quality of the plenary speakers, who were among the best group of invited speakers that I have seen at any conference. The outing to Dunrobin castle was also enjoyable and memorable. The symposium hosted invited and contributed talks exploring a wide variety of new ideas in energy research. I was particularly glad to see many talks dealing with the smart grid – the next generation electric grid – which is expected to be scalable, reliable, efficient, and secure, while facilitating the deployment of renewable and distributed energy generation. This is a very tall order, and to see perspectives on this problem from investigators across the globe, operating under a wide variety of regulatory and political constraints, was very interesting.

Best wishes on your future conferences!

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. Marshall  
Professor, School of Engineering  
Director, University of Vermont Smart Grid IGERT Program