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NEWS RELEASE

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Buol Meets with U.S. Department of Energy Leader

DUBUQUE, Iowa – Dubuque Mayor Roy D. Buol traveled to Washington, DC on Tuesday, Oct. 20, to meet with a high-ranking U.S. Department of Energy official to discuss Dubuque's Smart City Partnership with IBM; the recent "Sustainable Community Tour" visit to Dubuque by EPA, HUD, and DOT officials; and funding and job creation opportunities for Dubuque in the new energy economy.

"Decisions are being made now at the federal level that will shape the future of our energy infrastructure," said Buol. "Dubuque is in a great position to take advantage of the coming changes in energy so it is critical we have the opportunity share our vision as it relates to energy policy. That's why conversations at this level are very important."

Buol and Assistant City Manager Teri Goodmann met with Cathy Zoi, Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) with the Department of Energy, and four additional key staff. Zoi manages the U.S. Department of Energy's \$2.1 billion applied science, research, development, and deployment portfolio, which promotes marketplace integration of renewable and environmentally sound energy technologies. Additionally, Zoi oversees EERE's \$16.8 billion in funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. EERE is responsible for education, conservation, regulation, and efficient use of our nation's energy resources, including federal energy management, building codes, appliance standards, vehicle technologies, and the ENERGY STAR® program. EERE works to strengthen the United States' energy security, environmental quality, and economic vitality through public-private partnerships.

Goodmann was notified on Friday that the meeting was scheduled for Tuesday. "U.S. Secretary of Energy Steven Chu, Zoi, and other high-ranking Energy Department officials are interested in learning more about Dubuque and the unique initiatives underway here," said Goodmann.

A key part of Dubuque's economic development strategy is to attract the new jobs being created in the changing energy industry. "In the early 1960s, communities that were able to become part of the computer hardware and software industry through job creation in those areas thrived and created opportunities for their high school and college graduates and their children and grandchildren," said Buol. "The new jobs being created in the energy industry will create long-term opportunities for the communities that 'get in on the ground floor' of this

transformation. They will also create opportunities for existing businesses in those communities to grow by becoming product and service providers to those companies.”

Buol added that visits of this nature and this foundational communication with federal officials are necessary for long-term community progress and funding. “This is our chance to provide input into the current administration's emerging vision for the future of energy.”

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