United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 10, 2014

COMMITTEES:
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

BUDGET

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

> COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, NE Washington, DC 20426

Dear Acting Chairman LaFleur and Commissioners Moeller, Norris, and Clark:

I commend the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for moving swiftly to invoke its emergency authority for seven days to prioritize shipments of propane to the Midwest in light of the severe propane shortage Wisconsin has faced this winter. Throughout this brutally cold winter, families and business owners across the state have faced substantial hardship due to the instability of the propane supply and the dramatic increase in prices over the past few months.

Prioritizing the flow of propane to the Midwest will help increase supply and make it possible for families in Wisconsin to heat their homes. As the National Propane Gas Association wrote in its request to the Commission, "there is no question that additional propane is desperately needed in the Midwest... existing stocks are simply too low to meet demand through February." In light of the severity of this situation and the reality that the propane crisis is expected to continue for the foreseeable future, I urge you to extend the priority treatment of propane beyond the initial one-week timeframe granted by the Commission on February 7th. Ongoing priority treatment for propane is critical to ensuring the Midwest has sufficient propane to make it through the winter.

Thank you for your prompt and ongoing attention to this situation.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator