

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 22, 2011

*Congressional EMP Caucus Support of the NDU Solar Storm Exercise and Conference*

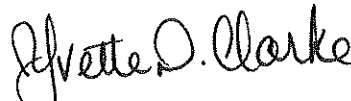
The Congressional EMP Caucus wishes to express its support and encouragement to the National Defense University (NDU) and affiliated government and private sector participants for their work in the nation's first comprehensive planning exercise and conference October 4-6, 2011 focused on the nationwide electric grid collapse due to extreme solar weather.


Since extreme solar weather is an example of a class of high-impact low-frequency events that can cause long-term catastrophic failure of electric power infrastructure, the EMP caucus actively supports legislation intended to provide the means to protect the bulk power supply of the nation. Consistent with President Obama's Presidential Policy Directive 8, we similarly call on the nation at large to do all they can to make their own local communities and businesses more resilient. We applaud the involvement already shown by various groups in their efforts to engage government organizations and leading companies that play a key role in the development and protection of critical infrastructure.

We are pleased to be able to support this upcoming table top exercise October 4-5 and the conference that follows on October 6. We trust that this will be an opportunity for industry and local government to learn from the table top exercises and begin the process of planning their own activities that can mitigate the effects of a severe solar storms or manmade EMP events and create contingency plans that ensure the viability of communities across the country. We look forward to continue to facilitate the involvement of local government and industry whenever possible.

Sincerely,

  
Trent Franks  
Member of Congress

  
Yvette Clarke  
Member of Congress

  
Roseo Bartlett  
Member of Congress