



## Press Release

### **Elster Hosts Congressman Brad Miller For Smart Grid Discussion**

*Smart grid technology, stimulus funding, NC jobs impact lead agenda*

RALEIGH, NC (November 24, 2009)— Elster, a leader in smart metering and smart grid systems and solutions, hosted U.S. Rep. Brad Miller (D-NC) at its North American headquarters in Raleigh, located in the congressman's district (NC-13).

Miller visited Elster to learn more about the company's state-of-the-art smart grid technology and how the company's success is having a positive impact on the local economy and job market. During the meeting, the company shared information on the number of recently announced federal smart grid stimulus awards that have been granted to Elster customers, which could translate into new jobs at Elster, in North Carolina and throughout the country.

On October 27, President Obama announced \$3.4 billion in American Reinvestment and Recovery Act grant awards for energy grid modernization—or, the smart grid. With Elster's help, 19 utilities in 15 states (plus the Navajo Indian Tribe) were awarded smart grid grants.

"I have visited plants in my district where jobs are being lost," said Miller. "It is refreshing to visit a plant that is going to hire more workers and expand in a bigger market than they are currently in. This is going to be an economic boon for the whole area."

Miller is North Carolina's first elected representative to the 13th and newest congressional district, which stretches from the state capitol of Raleigh, along the Virginia border counties, to Greensboro's Piedmont Triad region. In 2008, Miller supported an energy bill that he said "will put the U.S. on a path toward energy independence, strengthen our national security, grow our economy and create new jobs, lower energy prices and begin to address global warming."

Electric utilities worldwide are integrating Elster's smart grid technology into their transmission and distribution systems to:

- Reduce the loss of electricity as it moves from the generating plant to homes and businesses. The reduction of delivery losses can have a direct environmental and economic impact by increasing efficiency and reducing carbon emissions;
- Assist utilities in identifying outages and their cause prior to dispatching crews, reducing outage time for customers;
- Improve monitoring and control capabilities of the system while enhancing proven grid reliability; and
- Provide real-time information to end consumers to allow them to better manage their electricity use.

"Elster is a pioneer in the smart grid space," said Elster North America President and CEO Mark Munday. "We are honored to have had the opportunity to share our cutting edge technology and plans for continued growth with Rep. Miller.

"We expect 2010 will be a milestone year for our industry as smart grid projects expand in North Carolina and nationwide and we believe Elster's customers will



showcase the value of the U.S. government's commitment to the smart grid.”

To view a video from Rep. Miller's visit to Elster, please visit [www.energyaxis.com](http://www.energyaxis.com).

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**For further information contact:**

Yvette Ruffin, Elster, Senior Manager of Corporate Communications, +1-919-250-5512, [gyvette.ruffin@us.elster.com](mailto:gyvette.ruffin@us.elster.com)

**About Elster**

Elster, a global leader in smart metering and smart grid systems and solutions, has delivered more than 3 million smart metering devices worldwide with systems located in North America, Europe, Central America, Australia, New Zealand and the Caribbean. Elster smart metering system solutions provide utilities with energy conservation capabilities via demand response programs, smart grid applications, and operational efficiencies resulting in significant value creation across the utility enterprise. Elster has more than 7,500 staff and operates globally in North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Middle East, and Asia. [www.elster.com](http://www.elster.com)