39

Buenos Aires, Argentina
February 14, 1951

Mr. J. Colinet
Amitas
50 Broadway
New York City

Dear Mr. Colinet:

I was delighted to have your letters with regard to the memorandum and its delivery in Washington and your conversations in the Eximport Bank and in the State Department. I am very happy to know that Mr. Samuels went with you also. Your letter of January 29 to me is very encouraging and I had a note from Mr. Samuels telling me that he had accompanied you on your second trip and he had the same encouraging reaction from the conversations which you had. I have taken careful note of what you say in your letter of January 29 and I showed it to Mr. Brosens.

I telegraphed to Mexico City for a copy of the brief that Mexlight presented to the Eximport Bank originally requesting a credit as I feel sure this will be helpful to the CADE here as a guide in preparing a brief. It has already arrived and is being studied by Brosens, Baucili and Hernandez, et cetera, and of course Deschamp. They have all read the brief. I suggested to Brosens that as time is of the essence, it would be desirable, no matter what develops, to begin with the preparation of an application to the Eximport Bank immediately and I know that in the CADE they are now busily working on the preparation of a brief, using as a guide our own application . I think they will have it ready at least in preliminary form and in good form before I leave so I can carry a copy with me when I sail. I have, of course, had many conversations with Mr. Brosens and his associates and I am glad to say that yesterday the President and Mrs. Perón were good enough to ask Mrs. Messersmith and me and Mr. Brosens for lunch and Cereijo, Gomez Morales and Barros were there. After lunch Mrs. Messersmith left and the President had Brosens and me and the Ministers discuss this electricity matter with him until six o'clock and we covered fundamental aspects of the problem. Tomorrow Brosens and I will almost certainly have a meeting with the three Ministers above-mentioned and then hope before the end of the week we may have a new meeting with the President. The matter, as you see, is being fully gone into and I hope that something

which is in the interest of the Argentine and of the CADE and which means a real solution of the electricity problem in this country can be worked out. Under the very best circumstances the solutions are difficult because now in addition to the financing problem involved, there are these very serious materials problems. One thing is certain and that is that the whole situation is of the most primary importance, not only for the CADE but for the economy of this great country. The restrictions already in effect in the use of power are more real than I thought they were.

With all good wishes,

Cordially and faithfully yours,

George S. Messersmith