May 04, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232 Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
House Minority Leader
H-204 Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
S-221 Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
S-230 Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Chairwoman Rosa DeLauro
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Member Kay Granger
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Chairman Patrick Leahy
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-128 Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Vice Chairman Richard Shelby
Senate Committee on Appropriations
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, House Minority Leader McCarthy, Senate Majority Leader Schumer, Senate Minority Leader McConnell, Chairwoman DeLauro, Ranking Member Granger, Chairman Leahy, and Vice Chairman Shelby:

America's leadership in energy innovation has advanced a number of national priorities over the past several decades. Federal investments have created new industries and countless jobs, reduced emissions, increased energy security, and enhanced the nation's global influence. While this investment has yielded impressive returns, scaling up breakthrough clean energy technology is no small feat. In order to keep our domestic innovators, businesses, and workforce competitive in global energy markets and to stay on track toward our climate goals, Congress will need to immediately make robust, goal-oriented federal investments in priority energy innovation efforts. **Accordingly, we ask that you provide an FY22 appropriations allocation to the Energy and Water Development bill that enables a multi-billion dollar increase for vital research, development, demonstration, and commercial deployment activities across all Science and Energy program areas of the Department of Energy (DOE).**

Investing in clean energy innovation creates both near-term and long-term jobs and economic growth opportunities. In 2018, federal energy research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) investments provided employment for over 110,000 workers.[1] These are good-paying jobs spread across labs, universities, and businesses in every state, drawing upon the unparalleled expertise of America's scientists, engineers, farmers, and manufacturing workforce. Strategic investments in innovation create even greater rewards,

however, when they are sustained over time. Robust, multi-year efforts by DOE have established U.S. leadership in fields from nuclear to bioenergy, wind, solar, and energy storage to energy efficiency deployment, launching massive domestic industries that have employed millions of workers in the years since.

Congress has wisely provided spending boosts for RD&D activities at DOE in recent years. Even so, the U.S. is not keeping up with the competition and risks missing out on new opportunities as a result. Other nations like Japan, China, and those within the European Union are investing greater shares of their economies in energy R&D.[2] To continue competing for global market share in a changing energy sector, the U.S. must demonstrate, commercialize and deploy the technologies it develops at scale. Accelerating these later stages of innovation will require a significant increase in federal funding and private sector partnership, and is a vital and unavoidable step toward economic success.

Much of the evolution and resulting opportunities in global energy markets are being driven by demand for affordable low- and zero-carbon technologies to help fight climate change. Doubling-down on our investments in emerging clean energy technologies will help U.S. industries get ahead of this trend and enable the nation to do its part in reducing emissions.[3] Achieving these critical outcomes requires significant and sustained annual funding increases on the order of several billion dollars, starting immediately.

As Congress determines spending levels for FY2022, we respectfully request that the Energy and Water Development bill receive an increase in allocation large enough to accommodate a multi-billion dollar boost to innovation funding at DOE. This level of support would ensure America's energy industries and workers have a leg up on the competition, and a chance to bring home the rewards of surging global markets for clean energy technologies. We acknowledge the challenge of balancing a number of worthy demands for federal funding. However, given the urgency of the need and the proven return on investment, we believe significantly increased support for energy innovation is a national priority and hope Congress will treat it as such.

Sincerely,

Third Way
ClearPath Action
BPC Action
Clean Energy Business Network
Battelle
Information Technology and Innovation Foundation
United States Chamber of Commerce
Environmental Defense Fund
Natural Resources Defense Council
Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions
Clean Air Task Force
C3 Solutions
2G Energy, Inc.
8 Rivers Capital, LLC

Advanced Engine Systems Institute
Airlines for America
Alliant Energy
Alternative Fuels and Chemicals Coalition
Ameren
American Association for the Advancement of Science
American Chemistry Council
American Clean Power Association
American Council of Engineering Companies
American Electric Power
American Nuclear Society
American Petroleum Institute
American Public Power Association
Avangrid
Baker Hughes
Berkshire Hathaway Energy
Biomass Power Association
Biotechnology Innovation Organization
Black Hills Energy
C2ES
Capstone Green Energy
Carbon180
Carbon Capture Coalition
Carbon Utilization Research Council
Clean Energy Trust
CMS Energy
Combined Heat and Power Alliance
ConservAmerica Action
Consolidated Edison
Copper Development Association
Day One Project
Dominion Energy
DTE Energy
Duke Energy
Edison Electric Institute
Edison International
El Paso Electric
Enel Green Power North America
Enel X North America
Energy Storage Association
Entergy
Evergy
Exelon
Framatome Inc.

General Atomics
Geothermal Rising
Good Energy Collective
Great Plains Institute
Hawaiian Electric
Heat is Power Association
Malta Inc.
Manufacturers of Emission Controls Association
Midwest Cogeneration Association
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
Minnesota Power
National Audubon Society
National Grid
National Lime Association
National Ocean Industries Association
National Oilseed Processors Association
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
National Venture Capital Association
National Wildlife Federation
NET Power, LLC
NorthWestern Energy
Nuclear Energy Institute
Nuclear Innovation Alliance
Otter Tail Power Company
Oxy Low Carbon Ventures
PG&E Corporation
Pinnacle West/Arizona Public Service
Portland Cement Association
Portland General Electric
PPL Corporation
Prairie State Generating Company
Public Service Enterprise Group
Puget Sound Energy
Quidnet Energy
Rainey Center Freedom Project
Renewable Energy Buyers Alliance
Renewable Thermal Alliance
Reno + Sparks Chamber of Commerce
Rye Development
Siemens Energy, Inc.
Solar Energy Industries Association
Southern Company
Svante, Inc.
TechNet

The Aluminum Association
The Breakthrough Institute
The Nature Conservancy
UNS Energy / Tucson Electric Power
Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium
WEC Energy Group
Xcel Energy

[1] Breakthrough Energy, "Impacts of Federal R&D Investment on the US Economy," September 2020 https://www.breakthroughenergy.org/-/media/files/bev/bepwcreport09162020.pdf.
[2] International Energy Agency, "Public Energy R&D as a Share of GDP for Selected Countries, 2012-2019," July 2020 https://www.iea.org/data-and-statistics/charts/public-energy-r-and-d-as-a-share-of-gdp-in-selected-countries-2012-2019
[3] Columbia Center on Global Energy Policy, "Energizing America," 2020. https://www.energypolicy.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/file-uploads/EnergizingAmerica_FINAL_DIGITAL.pdf