

October 30, 2019

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Chairman
U.S. Senate
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Chairwoman
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shelby, Ranking Member Leahy, Chairwoman Lowey, and Ranking Member Granger:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we are writing in support of funding for energy efficiency programs administered by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in Fiscal Year 2020 consistent with the highest approved levels from the House and Senate. These programs return benefits and savings to American homeowners, consumers, and businesses many times greater than the public's investment. Additionally, energy efficiency is widely viewed as the single most effective solution for addressing climate change. In fact, according to the International Energy Agency, energy efficiency can account for more than 40% of the emissions reductions needed to meet international climate goals. In addition to tackling carbon emissions and delivering a return on investment, these programs have also helped develop an energy efficiency sector that accounts for over 2.3 million jobs.

The importance of DOE programs in research, technical assistance, and market integration efforts that have driven gains in energy efficiency cannot be overstated. DOE energy efficiency programs provide an exceptional value to American consumers and businesses, yielding benefits that far outweigh the relatively nominal outlays appropriated by Congress. As our society grows ever more dependent on energy to power our daily lives, now is not the time to abandon or shortchange the important work carried out by U.S. DOE. To that end, and to ensure these programs continue contributing to improved energy efficiency in our nation's buildings and infrastructure and increased economic and energy productivity as Congress intends, we respectfully urge you to provide FY2020 funding for these programs at the highest approved levels as summarized below:

Program	FY2019 Enacted Appropriations	FY2020 Energy and Water Appropriations
Advanced Manufacturing Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enables the research, development, demonstration and deployment of industrial energy efficiency and advanced manufacturing technologies that will keep U.S. companies competitive in international markets and support jobs in local communities. 	\$320,000,000	\$380,000,000 (Senate)
Building Technologies Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops innovative, cost-effective technologies, tools, and solutions that help U.S. homeowners, consumers and businesses achieve peak energy efficiency performance in their buildings across all sectors of our economy. 	\$226,000,000	\$300,000,000 (Senate) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$10M for Building Energy Codes (House) \$155M for Emerging Technologies (Senate) \$55M for Equipment & Building Standards (both) \$40M for Residential Buildings Integration (Senate) \$50M for Commercial Buildings Integration (Senate)
Federal Energy Management Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leverages private-sector capital in performance contracts, provides project and policy expertise to all federal agencies, helping them meet Congressional and Executive energy management goals, such as reducing waste in federal agency energy use, spurring innovation and the commercialization of efficient technologies. 	\$30,000,000	\$45,000,000 (Senate)
Weatherization and Intergovernmental Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports energy efficiency and broader clean energy technologies and practices in partnership with state, local, and territorial governments. 	\$257,000,000 ¹ for Weatherization Assistance Program \$55,000,000 for State Energy Program	\$303,500,000 ² for Weatherization Assistance Program (Senate) \$70,000,000 for State Energy Program (House)
Vehicle Technologies Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotes the development of advanced efficiency technologies for light- and heavy-duty vehicles and transportation system efficiency. 	\$344,000,000	\$410,000,000 (Senate)
Energy Information Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides data collection, analysis and reporting activities on energy use and consumption, including the Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey and the Residential Buildings Energy Consumption Survey. 	\$125,000,000	\$132,000,000 (Senate)

¹ Funding for the Weatherization Assistance Program includes \$3,000,000 for training and technical assistance.

² Funding for the Weatherization Assistance program includes \$3,500,000 for training and technical assistance.

We also encourage you to once again include clear direction to DOE to obligate and expend funds consistent with Congressional intent and in a timely manner. Both the House and Senate provided clear report language that directs DOE to distribute funds in a timely manner and not prioritize early-stage research and development at the expense of later-stage deployment and demonstration activities. As you reconcile competing (at times very similar, and often complementary) report language in conference negotiations, we respectfully recommend an expansive approach to ensure congressional intent is stated clearly and directly. We encourage you to accept the House-approved language supporting the Department's ongoing role in the ENERGY STAR® program. We also encourage you to accept the Senate-approved language concerning: the Building Technology Office; Industrial Technical Assistance under the Advanced Manufacturing Office, including Combined Heat and Power Technical Assistance Partnerships, technical assistance for energy-intensive manufacturing facilities, and full recommended funding for Industrial Assessment Centers; Workforce Development; the timely disbursement of the full amount of funds for the Weatherization Assistance Program and State Energy Program; and the establishment of and funding for a Performance Based Contract National Resource Collaborative, which we request to be housed under Strategic Programs.

Additionally, as addressed in both the House and Senate report language, the ongoing reduction in staffing and hiring within EERE remains a top concern. We encourage you to accept the Senate report language addressing this reduction in force within EERE and direct the Under Secretary of Energy to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a plan for reaching full staffing level needed to responsibly manage a growing portfolio.

We appreciate your leadership and the work by the appropriations committees to follow regular order, avoid controversial policy riders, and consider appropriations for DOE's energy efficiency programs in the FY2020 process. Your work has ensured that Congress is ready and prepared to provide the funding and report language needed for DOE to do its part in the transition to a truly modern, integrated power grid and dynamic energy sector. DOE energy efficiency programs will be a critical driver and catalyst for new technology and innovation during this important time. Respectfully, we urge you and all conferees to support these important energy efficiency programs at DOE in FY2020.

Thank you for your continued strong support for key energy efficiency programs and for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

ASHRAE
Advanced Energy Economy
Alliance to Save Energy
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
Building Performance Association
Building Performance Institute
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
California Energy Commission
Combined Heat and Power Alliance

Covestro LLC
Daikin US Corporation
Danfoss
DuPont
E4TheFuture
Environmental and Energy Study Institute
Federal Performance Contracting Coalition
Ingersoll Rand
Institute for Market Transformation
Interfaith Power & Light
International Association of Lighting Designers
International Code Council
International Window Film Association
Knauf Insulation
National Association for State Community Services Programs
National Association of Energy Service Companies
National Association of State Energy Officials
Natural Resources Defense Council
North American Insulation Manufacturers Association
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association
Rocky Mountain Institute
Signify
The Stella Group, Ltd.
U.S. Green Building Council