

May 2, 2019

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Chairwoman
U.S. House of Representatives Committee
on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and
Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Joyce
Ranking Member
U.S. House of Representatives Committee
on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and
Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chairwoman
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and
Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Udall
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and
Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Support for FY2020 Funding for EPA ENERGY STAR® and Voluntary Programs

Dear Chairwoman McCollum, Ranking Member Joyce, Chairwoman Murkowski, and Ranking Member Udall:

We, the undersigned businesses and organizations, write today to express our strong support for ENERGY STAR®, the portfolio of voluntary partnership programs administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that advance energy efficiency, and the National Vehicle and Fuel Emissions Laboratory. These programs offer valuable information, technical assistance, and other resources to homeowners, consumers, businesses, states, local governments, non-profit organizations, and institutions of higher education and help reduce energy waste across all sectors of the economy. We urge you to reject the administration's proposals to eliminate or severely cut these programs and provide at least level funding and clear direction in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 to EPA to continue its successful efforts.

ENERGY STAR

- **We recommend at least \$50 million for ENERGY STAR in FY2020.**
- **We oppose the implementation of a fee-based funding model for ENERGY STAR, which is unnecessary, and which would erode the program's integrity.**
- ENERGY STAR enjoys brand awareness of more than 90%, which makes it the most widely recognized symbol for energy efficiency, and is extremely cost-effective. For every extra dollar Americans invested in energy efficiency under ENERGY STAR, they reduced their energy bills by an average of \$4.50. Since 1992, managed jointly by EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy, ENERGY STAR has helped families and businesses save \$450 billion on utility bills, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 3.1 billion metric tons.

- ENERGY STAR serves broad constituencies across every state in the country, working with over 16,000 partners. ENERGY STAR includes almost 1,800 manufacturing partners of over 70 different product categories, who sold more than 300 million qualified products in the U.S. in 2016. About 50% of the commercial building floor space in the U.S. has been benchmarked for tracking and analyzing energy consumption using ENERGY STAR's Portfolio Manager. ENERGY STAR also counts almost 3,000 home builder partners who constructed over 1.9 million certified new homes since 1995. In 2016, families living in ENERGY STAR certified homes saved over \$360 million on utility bills, and 91,000 energy efficiency improvement projects on existing homes were completed by Home Performance with ENERGY STAR partners in 2017. More than 700 utilities, state and local governments, and nonprofits across the country use ENERGY STAR in their own energy efficiency programs and rely on it to reliably and affordably meet their energy needs.

Other Voluntary Programs that Promote Energy Efficiency

- **We recommend at least level funding for Environmental Programs and Management – Clean Air and – Water Quality Protection in FY2020 accompanied by clear direction to EPA to continue administering its portfolio of voluntary and partnership programs that encourage energy efficiency practices in industry and deliver savings across the energy sector.**
- The **Combined Heat and Power Partnership** aims to reduce pollution from electricity and thermal power generation by working with industry and other stakeholders to develop new projects.
- The **SmartWay Transport Partnership** with the freight transportation industry supports efforts to improve the fuel efficiency of vehicles. This program has worked with more than 3,700 shippers and logistics companies to save almost \$33.4 billion in fuel since 2004.
- **Natural Gas STAR**, which includes the **Methane Challenge Program**, is a partnership with industry that supports the identification and implementation of technologies that reduce methane pollution and provides public recognition of high achievements.
- **AgStar** promotes the use of biogas recovery systems to reduce methane emissions from livestock waste.
- **WaterSense** offers homeowners, consumers, and businesses information about water-efficient products marked by a recognizable and trusted label.
- Other programs, such as the **State and Local Energy and Environment Program** and the **State and Local Energy Efficiency Action Network**, are important collaborations between the public and private sectors that provide specific and tailored technical assistance and platforms for sharing information and best practices.

National Vehicle and Fuel Emissions Laboratory

- **We recommend at least \$117 million in Science and Technology – Clean Air, including at least level funding in vehicle and fuel standards and in greenhouse gas reporting.**
- This laboratory is a global leader that oversees vehicle fuel economy and emissions testing, which are closely related. The laboratory manages programs that also address fuel economy labels, the Green Vehicle Guide, fuel standards, and nonroad engines.

EPA has decades of experience managing ENERGY STAR and the other programs, which are popular among homeowners, consumers, and businesses. This program design model has demonstrated time and again that it effectively and cost-effectively brings together the public sector and private-sector leaders around common goals. These programs are integral to federal energy efficiency policy and should be continued rather than eliminated.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Advanced Energy Economy
Alliance for Industrial Efficiency
Alliance for Water Efficiency
Alliance to Save Energy
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
American Gas Association
American Institute of Architects
Building Performance Institute
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
California Energy Commission
Covestro LLC
Danfoss
DuPont
E4TheFuture
Efficiency First
Elevate Energy
Energy and Resource Solutions
Environmental and Energy Study Institute
Home Performance Coalition
Illuminating Engineering Society
Institute for Market Transformation
International Code Council
Johnson Controls
Knauf Insulation
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
National Association of State Energy Officials
Natural Resources Defense Council
Rocky Mountain Institute
Sacramento Municipal Utility District
Seattle City Light
Sense
The Stella Group, Ltd.