

April 1, 2019

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
and Water Development
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy
and Water Development
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Feinstein:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we are writing in support of critical energy efficiency programs administered by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. These programs return benefits and savings to American homeowners, consumers, and businesses many times greater than the public's investment. Furthermore, these programs, often through public-private partnerships, have helped develop an energy efficiency sector that accounts for over 2.3 million jobs. We urge you to hold the line on funding and ensure that these programs have the resources necessary to continue contributing to improved energy efficiency in our nation's buildings and infrastructure and increased economic and energy productivity.

Energy efficiency is our nation's most abundant energy resource. Without the gains in energy efficiency made since 1973, the U.S. economy would today require about two-thirds more energy than we currently consume. Between then and today, U.S. gross domestic product has tripled while energy consumption has only risen by about 40%. 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, we respectfully request FY2020 funding for the following DOE programs, as summarized below.

Advanced Manufacturing Office (AMO)

- **We recommend \$320 million to enable the research, development, demonstration and deployment of industrial energy efficiency and advanced manufacturing technologies. These technologies will keep U.S. companies competitive in international markets and enable them to retain and continue to expand employment opportunities in local economies.**
- AMO is a key component of many public-private partnerships that leverage federal investment in high-performance computing, advanced materials, and smart manufacturing. Transfer of these technologies to the private sector is critically important to sustained international competitiveness of the nation's small and mid-size

manufacturers. We support funding for the Clean Energy Manufacturing Innovation Institutes, Industrial Assessment Centers, Combined Heat and Power Technical Assistance Partnerships, and the deployment of energy efficient manufacturing technologies and practices, such as smart manufacturing.

Building Technologies Office (BTO)

- **We recommend \$268 million to develop 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.**
- Within this account, robust funding is needed for:
 - **Emerging Technologies (ET)**: The program supports applied research and development (R&D) for technologies and accelerating the adoption of these technologies into the marketplace.
 - **Residential Building Integration (RBI)**: DOE collaborates with the residential building industry to improve the energy efficiency of both new and existing homes. RBI has partnerships with thousands of small businesses in this sector, the construction trades, equipment, smart grid technology and systems suppliers, integrators, and state and local governments. By developing, demonstrating, and deploying cost-effective solutions, the program aims to reduce by 2025 the energy use for space conditioning and water heating in single-family homes by 40% from 2010 levels.
 - **Commercial Building Integration (CBI)**: The program's research, development, and evaluation helps advance a range of innovative building technologies and solutions, paving the way for high performing buildings that could use between 50% and 70% less energy than typical buildings. CBI works with industry, small businesses, academia, the national labs, and other entities to advance energy efficiency solutions and technologies for commercial buildings.
 - **Efficiency Standards, Building Codes, and Test Procedures**: DOE is responsible for setting minimum efficiency standards for appliances, equipment, and lighting to ensure new models continue to make progress on efficiency as technology matures as well as updating test procedures to reflect product improvements, particularly Internet connectivity. DOE plays an important support and technical assistance role in the development and implementation of building energy codes, which are adopted by states and local governments, for residential and commercial construction that reflect developments in building energy efficiency – and “lock in” savings for the life of the building.

Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP)

- **We recommend \$36 million to provide project and policy expertise to all federal agencies, \$9 million of which will go directly to the Assisting Federal Facilities with Energy Conservation Technologies (AFFECT) program.**
- With moderate funding, FEMP supports all agencies of the Federal government in their quest to save energy and money for the American taxpayer while improving agency infrastructure and addressing deferred maintenance. FEMP is at the forefront of efforts to improve federal building energy performance, which is accomplished in part by accessing and leveraging private capital in performance contracts. The additional private capital has been used to finance hundreds of projects across two dozen agencies, creating 30,000 jobs and reducing energy outlays by \$8 billion over the next 18 years.
- We support funding for the Assisting Federal Facilities with Energy Conservation Technologies (AFFECT) program within FEMP.

Weatherization and State Energy Program

- **We recommend \$340 million, and within this account, we request funding allocations for the following priorities, including \$270 million for the Weatherization Assistance Program and \$70 million for the State Energy Program.**
- R&D investments will continue to make emerging technologies cheaper and more accessible, but DOE's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) is particularly important for bringing energy efficiency to communities that need it. According to the Energy Information Administration, over 25 million American households report forgoing food or medicine to pay energy costs, while over 12 million households report being unable to use their heating or cooling equipment. Since 1976, WAP has helped make more than 7 million homes more efficient, saving the average recipient about \$4,200 over the lifetime of their home.
- The State Energy Program (SEP) provides funding and technical assistance to states, territories, and the District of Columbia to enhance energy security, advance state-led energy initiatives, and maximize the benefits of decreasing energy waste.

Vehicle Technologies Program

- **We recommend \$344 million to pursue advanced efficiency technologies for light- and heavy-duty vehicles and transportation system efficiency.**
- Innovative programs such as the SuperTruck II, Energy Efficient Mobility Systems, and Advanced Engine and Fuel Technologies play a crucial role in achieving U.S. leadership in the rapidly emerging areas of advanced clean vehicles and sustainable mobility. DOE's Vehicle Technologies Office Battery and Electrification Technologies R&D programs have helped drive electric vehicle costs down faster than anticipated and have contributed to the AMO's Clean Energy Manufacturing Initiative.

Strategic Programs

- **We recommend an increase of \$5 million for the establishment of a Performance Based Contract National Resource Collaborative.**

- The Collaborative should be managed by Strategic Programs but be a joint development between the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) and the Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs (OWIP). The Collaborative will provide technical and financial expertise to State and local government users that will enable the expansion of performance-based contracts nationwide.

Energy Information Administration

- **We recommend \$135 million to continue important 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.**
- Additional data is also needed on LEDs (light-emitting diode bulbs and fixtures), commercial building codes, and transmission.

We also encourage you to once again include direction to DOE to obligate funds consistent with Congressional intent and in a timely manner and direct DOE to maintain a comprehensive approach that includes early, middle, and late-stage research, development, deployment, and demonstration activities. Continued DOE involvement throughout this process is critical to delivering innovative advanced energy technologies, practices, and information to American consumers. Specifically, in the Direction on Research and Development Activities section of the Department of Energy Title, we request the addition of the following language:

- “The Committee recognizes that buildings are an important element of U.S. infrastructure; building energy efficiency programs are critical to energy emergency preparedness and response, resilience and reliability, and physical and cyber security. The Committee directs the Department to aggressively implement mid- and late-stage research and development activities to spur further innovation in the market. The Committee restates its concerns about how the Department is deploying funds and staff resources appropriated in previous fiscal years and directs the Department to implement the activities as directed in a timely manner and for EERE leadership to meet no less than quarterly with Committee staff to provide a status report on activities, including filling vacancies at EERE.”

The U.S. is in the midst of a 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. As we invest in and upgrade to an energy efficient infrastructure worthy of the 21st century, Congress should ensure that U.S. DOE has the resources it needs to ensure that we build cost-effectively and energy- and water-efficiently – to avoid creating waste in the first place. We urge the Subcommittee to support these important energy efficiency programs at DOE in FY2020.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Advanced Energy Economy
Alliance for Industrial Efficiency
Alliance to Save Energy
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
American Institute of Architects
ASHRAE
Building Performance Institute
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
California Energy Commission
Covestro LLC
Danfoss
DuPont
E4TheFuture
Efficiency First
Environmental and Energy Study Institute
Federal Performance Contracting Coalition
Home Performance Coalition
Illuminating Engineering Society
Ingersoll Rand
Institute for Market Transformation
International Association of Lighting Designers
International Code Council
Johnson Controls
Knauf Insulation
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
National Association for State Community Services Programs
National Association of Energy Service Companies
National Association of State Energy Officials
North American Insulation Manufacturers Association
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association
Rocky Mountain Institute
Sense
Signify
The Stella Group, Ltd.
U.S. Green Building Council