Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

April 1, 2019

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations H-307 The Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Mike Simpson Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations 2362-B Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Kaptur and Ranking Member Simpson:

We are writing to express strong support for key energy efficiency programs within the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). These programs, which are leveraged across the board through public-private partnerships, have helped modernize an energy efficiency sector that employs about 2.25 million Americans. More can be done, and as we invest in and upgrade U.S. energy infrastructure, we must ensure that DOE has the resources it needs to continue to deliver direct savings to homeowners, consumers, and businesses.

Energy efficiency is our nation's most abundant energy resource. Without the gains in energy efficiency made since 1980, the U.S. economy would today require two-thirds more energy than we currently consume. According to the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, the cumulative savings from energy efficiency since 1980 reduced our national energy bills in 2014 by about \$800 billion. The importance of the U.S DOE in research, technical assistance, and market integration efforts that have driven gains in energy efficiency cannot be overstated. U.S. DOE energy efficiency programs provide exceptional value to American consumers and businesses, yielding benefits that far outweigh the relatively nominal outlays appropriated by Congress. We respectfully request FY2020 funding for the following DOE programs, as summarized below:

Buildings Technologies: \$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, systems, and models that contribute to reducing energy

- consumption. ET is helping to meet this goal by enabling cost-effective, energy-efficient technologies and accelerating the adoption of these technologies into the marketplace.
- Residential Buildings 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 energy 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 new residential and commercial construction that reflect developments in building energy efficiency—and "lock in" savings for the life of the building.

Advanced Manufacturing Office (AMO): \$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.

<u>Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP)</u>: \$36 million to provide project and policy expertise to all federal agencies. With minimal 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. Additionally, we support funding for the AFFECT program within FEMP.

Weatherization and State Energy Program: \$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 (SEP). 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.

<u>Vehicle Technologies Program</u>: \$344 million to pursue advanced efficiency technologies for light- and heavy-duty vehicles and transportation system efficiency. Innovative programs such as 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 contributed to the AMO's Clean Energy Manufacturing Initiative.

Strategic Programs: Increase of \$5,000,000 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: \$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.

Our request directs 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.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

PETER WELCH

Member of Congress

GERALD E. CONNOLLY

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