

May 4, 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.<sup>1</sup> These are good-paying jobs spread across labs, universities,

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<sup>1</sup> Breakthrough Energy, "Impacts of Federal R&D Investment on the US Economy," September 2020  
<https://www.breakthroughenergy.org/-/media/files/bev/bepwcreport09162020.pdf>.

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.<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> 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

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<sup>2</sup> 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>

<sup>3</sup> Columbia Center on Global Energy Policy, "Energizing America," 2020. [https://www.energypolicy.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/file-uploads/EnergizingAmerica\\_FINAL\\_DIGITAL.pdf](https://www.energypolicy.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/file-uploads/EnergizingAmerica_FINAL_DIGITAL.pdf)

Environmental Defense Fund  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions  
Clean Air Task Force  
Edison Electric Institute  
C2ES  
C3 Solutions  
8 Rivers Capital, LLC  
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  
Carbon180  
Carbon Capture Coalition  
Carbon Utilization Research Council  
Clean Energy Trust  
CMS Energy  
Consolidated Edison  
ConservAmerica Action  
Copper Development Association  
Day One Project  
Dominion Energy  
DTE Energy  
Duke Energy  
Edison International  
El Paso Electric  
Enel Green Power North America  
Enel X North America  
Energy Storage Association  
Entergy  
Eversource

Exelon  
Framatome Inc.  
General Atomics  
Geothermal Rising  
Good Energy Collective  
Great Plains Institute  
Hawaiian Electric  
Malta Inc.  
Manufacturers of Emissions Controls Association  
Minnesota Power  
National Audubon Society  
National Grid  
National Ocean Industries Association  
National Oilseed Processors 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  
Solar Energy Industries Association  
Southern Company  
Svante, Inc.  
TechNet  
The Aluminum Association  
The Breakthrough Institute  
The Nature Conservancy  
UNS Energy / Tucson Electric Power

WEC Energy Group  
Xcel Energy