Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 14, 2023

The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann
Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Chair Fleischmann and Ranking Member Kaptur:

We are writing to express strong support for critical energy efficiency-related programs managed by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Increasing investment in these programs can deliver significant emissions reductions, grow jobs in the clean energy sector, and provide savings to American consumers.

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 2018 by more than $800 billion. Continued investment in energy efficiency programs can contribute to a 50% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, energy savings of more than $700 billion.[1]

The U.S. energy efficiency workforce is comprised of over 2.1 million Americans, the largest share of the entire U.S. energy sector and more than all the jobs in clean and fossil energy generation combined.[2] Most of these jobs provide good compensation and cannot be shipped overseas, ensuring that future generations of Americans can pursue competitive careers in energy efficiency.

The importance of the U.S DOE in research, technical assistance, deployment, infrastructure development, 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.

Specifically, we respectfully request FY 2024 funding for the following DOE programs, as summarized below:

Buildings Technologies Office (BTO): $542 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:

- Residential Buildings Integration (RBI): $122 million for DOE to collaborate with the residential building industry to improve the energy efficiency of both new and existing homes. RBI develops

[1] Nadel, S., and L. Ungar. 2019. *Halfway There: Energy Efficiency Can Cut Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Half by 2050*. Washington, DC: ACEEE. https://www.aceee.org/research-report/u1907
[2] E4TheFuture and E2. December 2022. *Energy Efficiency Jobs in America – 2022*. https://e4thefuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/EE-Jobs-in-America_All-States_2022.pdf

critical technologies, tools, and solutions that help U.S. consumers and businesses achieve peak efficiency performance in residential buildings across the country. RBI's work supports workforce development and training and 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. The integration research, demonstration, and market transformation activities of RBI are critical as we transform America's new and existing residential buildings and work towards the Administration's goal of weatherizing 2 million homes.

- Commercial Building Integration (CBI): $80 million for the program's research, development, and evaluation help 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. The program, which considers buildings as systems and as part of the electric grid, continues to be transformative in moving industry partners to embrace innovation.
- Efficiency Standards, Building Codes, and Test Procedures: $90 million for equipment and building standards, including $60 million for appliance standards and $30 million for the Building Energy Codes Program. 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. While DOE has made progress recently, it is far behind in issuing new appliance standards, making an increased focus critical. 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 construction and renovations of residential and commercial buildings, that reflect developments in building energy efficiency and "lock in" savings for the life of the building. Education, training, and technical assistance have been woefully underfunded over the past several years and can be very impactful in assisting in codes adoption and effective implementation.
- Emerging Technologies (ET): $160 million for the program to enable cost-effective, energy-efficient technologies to be developed and introduced into the marketplace. ET funds and directs applied research and development (R&D) for technologies and tools that support building energy efficiency, particularly electric technologies for a carbon free grid.
- Grid-interactive Efficient Buildings (GEB): $50 million for DOE to ensure that a high level of energy efficiency is a core element of this new crosscutting program and a baseline characteristic for GEBs which are also connected, smart, and flexible. The Office should engage with the public and private sectors, including the building and manufacturing industries and state and local governments, to share information on GEB technologies, costs, and benefits, and to provide information to position American companies to lead in this area. Funding for Connected Communities and other deployment activities is encouraged.

Advanced Manufacturing & Industrial Decarbonization Offices (AMMTO & IEDO): Consistent with the President's budget request, at least $242 million for Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Technologies Office (AMMTO) and at least $394 million for Industrial Efficiency and Decarbonization Office (IEDO) to enable the research, development, demonstration and deployment of industrial energy efficiency and advanced manufacturing technologies. This level of funding is intended to accommodate an ambitious agenda of decarbonizing U.S. manufacturing by 2050. This goal of dramatic reductions requires increases in activity levels across the office and some important changes in the orientation of the office's goals. EERE should expand its efforts from promoting energy efficiency to include efforts to reduce carbon emissions for manufacturing and reduce the embodied carbon in manufactured products. Additionally, as EERE rebuilds its staffing, the office should focus on adding expertise in important decarbonization technology areas identified in its research road mapping.

- Energy Management: Efforts to promote Strategic Energy Management practices and the establishment of a program to provide competitive grants to companies

for the hiring or designation of plant energy managers. For Strategic Energy Management, EERE should focus efforts on small and medium-sized manufacturing plans.

- Save Carbon Now: Expansion of the Better Plants program to offer comprehensive assessment and engagements to the 1,500 largest greenhouse gas emitting manufacturing facilities. These engagements should include, but are not limited to, targeted assessments, staff training, technical analyses of opportunities, and education.
- Existing Low-Carbon Technology: Establishment of a grant program for manufacturing plants to install underutilized existing low-carbon technologies.
- Smart Manufacturing: Support of the development and adoption of smart manufacturing practices directed towards small and medium-sized manufacturers.
- Industrial Process Heating Decarbonization: Establishment of a research, development, and deployment effort by EERE to develop and promote the adoption of technologies that can dramatically reduce the GHG emissions from process heating applications.

Manufacturing And Energy Supply Chains (MESC): Consistent with the President's budget request, at least $179 million for strengthening and securing manufacturing and energy supply chains needed to modernize the nation's energy infrastructure and support a clean and equitable energy transition.

- Industrial Assessment Centers: Expansion of the Industrial Assessment Centers (IAC) program to bring the number of university-based centers to 40; to establish satellite centers at community colleges, technical schools, and union training facilities; and to establish an apprenticeship program with matching funding for IAC students at facilities that have received assessments in the recent past to facilitate the implementation of recommendations.
- Flex-Tech: Establishment of a Flex-Tech program that provides grants to states and tribal governments partnered with educational institutions and trade associations to provide energy and greenhouse gas reduction assessments and loans to implement identified measures at small and medium-sized manufacturers.

Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED): Consistent with the President's budget request, at least $215 million to deliver clean energy demonstration projects at scale in partnership with the private sector to accelerate deployment, market adoption, and the equitable transition to a decarbonized energy system.

- Transformative Technology Adoption: Establishment of a grant program that provides cost-share payments to manufacturing sites that make at-scale implementation of transformative technologies to reduce GHG emissions in intensive manufacturing processes.

Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP): At least $100 million to provide project and policy expertise to all federal agencies, including not less than $60 million for DOE to continue its work through the Assisting Federal Facilities with Energy Conservation Technologies (AFFECT) program under the Federal Energy Efficiency Fund and $2 million for the Performance Based Contract National Resource Initiative. With minimal funding, FEMP supports all agencies of the Federal government in their mission 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. FEMP's work has attracted private capital used to finance over 441 projects across two dozen agencies and resulted in approximately $8 billion in investments in federal energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements. These improvements have generated approximately $18 billion in cumulative energy cost savings for the federal government. Specified funding for AFFECT has been provided in prior fiscal years to provide small grants to federal agencies to help achieve energy savings and resilience goals. These grants are then leveraged through performance contracts, allowing agencies to utilize private finance to complete innovative and comprehensive energy and water conservation projects not otherwise be possible. The Performance Contracting National Resource Center (PCNRC) is a hub for best practices and solutions for performance Contracts implemented in the federal and MUSH (i.e., municipalities and state governments, universities and colleges, K-12 schools, and hospitals) markets.

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP): At least $527.5 million is recommended for WAP, including $375 million for the base Program, $15 million for training and technical assistance, $37.5 million for the Weatherization Readiness Fund, and $100 million for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Advantage pilot to retrofit and decarbonize low-income households through energy efficient electric appliances and systems that reduce energy bills. R&D investments will continue to make emerging technologies cheaper and more accessible, but DOE's WAP is particularly important for bringing energy efficiency to communities and families that need it most. 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 8 million homes more efficient, saving the average recipient about $4,200 over the lifetime of their home. Each WAP dollar produces $4.50 in benefits, including energy savings as well as improved health and safety. Federal weatherization assistance also helps workers and small businesses, directly supporting more than 8,500 jobs and supporting thousands more in related industries.

State Energy Program (SEP): At least $90 million is recommended for SEP grants. The Department is directed not to utilize funds from the State Energy Program appropriation, either from annual appropriations or IIJA or IRA funds for technical assistance. SEP leverages over $10 for every federal dollar invested and saves over $7 for every federal dollar invested. In addition to energy efficiency and renewable energy programs, SEP is critical for dealing with cyber security and energy emergency preparedness and response. SEP is extremely flexible and is the basis for a variety of partnership programs.

U.S. Energy & Employment Report (USEER): $2 million for the Office of Policy to complete the annual U.S. energy employment report that includes a comprehensive statistical survey to collect data, publish the data and provide a summary report. The information collected will include data related to employment figures and demographics in the U.S. energy sector. The report presents a unique snapshot of energy efficiency employment in key sectors of the economy, including construction and manufacturing.

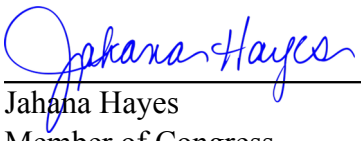
Energy Information Administration (EIA): $157 million, consistent with the President's budget request, to continue important data collection, analysis, and reporting activities on energy use and consumption including the Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS), the Residential Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (RBECS), and the Manufacturing Energy Consumption Survey (MBECS). Sec. 40413 of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law requires but does not provide funding for EIA to expand data collection for the CBECS, RBECS, and MECS. We strongly support increased funding for these activities, which are foundational for improving the energy efficiency of sectors that account for more than two-thirds of U.S. energy consumption. The Energy Information Administration account should provide $5 million in new funding to implement these activities.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

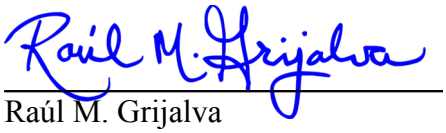
Sincerely,

Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress

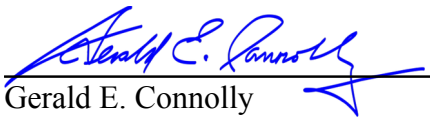
Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



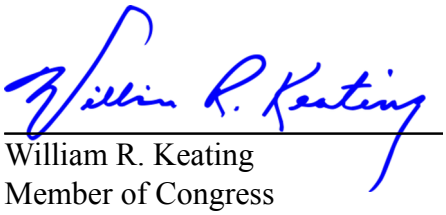
Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



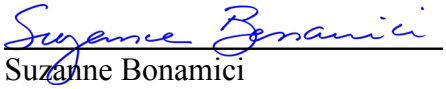
Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



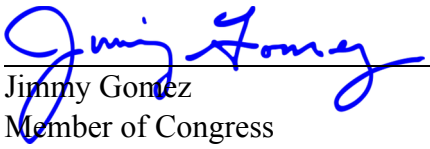
William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



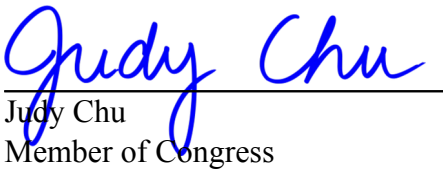
Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



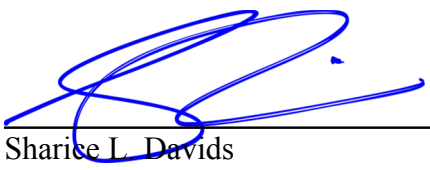
Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress

Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress

André Carson
Member of Congress

Bill Foster
Member of Congress

Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress

Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

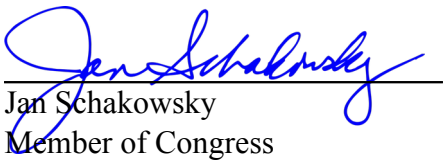
Nikki Budzinski

Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress

Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



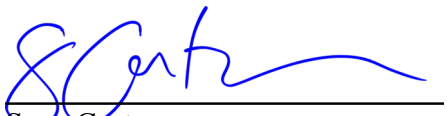
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



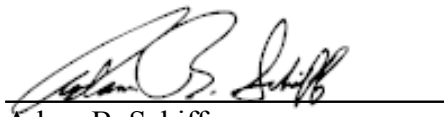
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



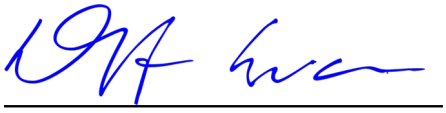
Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress



Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



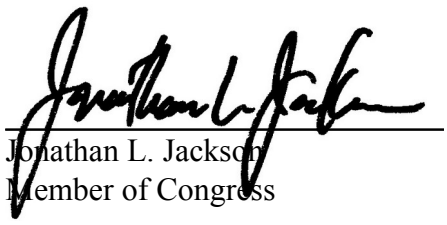
Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



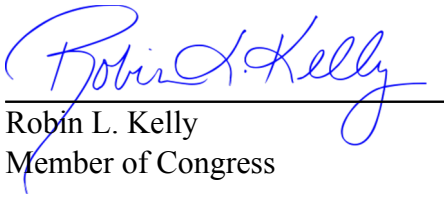
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



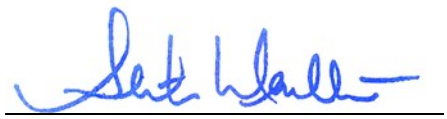
Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



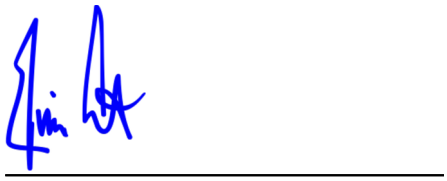
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



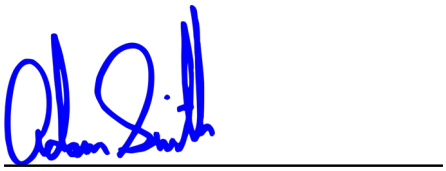
Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



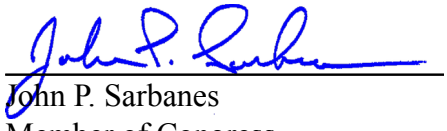
Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



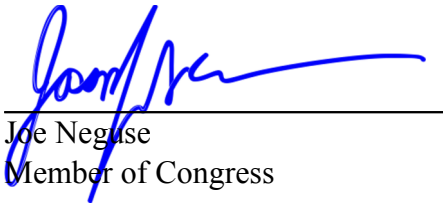
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress