



April 22, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Appropriations Committee  
437 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Vice Chairman, Senate Appropriations  
Committee  
304 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
Chair, Senate Appropriations Energy & Water  
Development Subcommittee  
331 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Kennedy  
Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Energy  
& Water Development Subcommittee  
416 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chairwoman, Senate Committee on Commerce,  
Science, and Transportation  
511 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roger Wicker  
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
555 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen Leahy, Feinstein, and Cantwell, Vice Chairman Shelby, and Ranking Members Kennedy, and Wicker:

As members of the Clean Energy Business Network working to deploy clean and efficient energy technologies across the United States, we appreciate the support Congress recently provided in Fiscal Year 2022 (FY23) for critical Department of Energy (DOE) programs.

As Congress moves forward with appropriations legislation for FY23, we urge you to build upon this progress by providing continued robust funding for critical DOE offices that carry out cleantech research, development, demonstration, and deployment (RDD&D). We recommend working toward a goal of at least doubling investment in DOE innovation programs by 2025 over recent levels. The President's FY23 budget request of \$11 billion for cleantech RDD&D would achieve this path and position the U.S. to lead in global cleantech innovation.

We were especially encouraged to see Congress approve \$21 billion in funding through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to establish the new Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations within the Department of Energy. This new office, in combination with the Loan Programs Office, will help the innovative technologies coming out of the DOE innovation pipeline penetrate commercial markets. While this investment was monumental, it doesn't negate the need for sustained, year-on-year increases to all of DOE's innovation activities. We must consider the pipeline of emerging and advanced energy technologies and continue working to shepherd new clean energy innovations to commercialization.

DOE's investment in early-stage and applied research spurs private-sector innovation and facilitates the

testing and commercialization of many high-risk, high-reward energy technologies, which have accelerated cost declines across the energy sector over the past few decades. Consumers, businesses, and taxpayers across America are enjoying the benefits of job creation, lower energy bills, greater reliability, increased domestic investment, and healthier communities.

CEBN also supports enactment of a conference agreement on the Bipartisan Innovation Act that seeks to enhance U.S. competitiveness and national security by bolstering key supply chains across semiconductors and critical minerals and boosting R&D in important sectors. The House and Senate versions of this legislation each contain many important provisions towards the advancement of these goals, which impact the cleantech innovation ecosystem significantly.

One important provision in the House COMPETES Act would [extend funding](#) for the Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer programs for 5 years. These programs, which have a decades-long successful track record of commercializing technologies through small businesses, are at risk of losing funding this year if Congress fails to reauthorize the Small Business Administration. It is critical to prevent a disruption to our innovation ecosystem that could impact many small businesses.

Notably, the House version—the America COMPETES Act—contains a regional clean energy innovation program (Sec. 10642) that ensures investments across the innovation ecosystem are made in a geographically diverse fashion. The bill also includes “Energizing Technology Transfer” provisions (Title VI, Subtitle C of America COMPETES) which would support small businesses by boosting access at the National Labs through vouchers and providing support to incubators and accelerators, which serve as important catalysts in the cleantech innovation ecosystem. CEBN is also supportive of a new Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation included in both the House and Senate versions of the bill, which was recommended in a [report to Congress](#) by a nonpartisan advisory committee. Existing foundations at the Department of Agriculture and National Institutes of Health have proven this model can successfully unlock private capital to help accelerate innovation through public-private partnerships.

We encourage lawmakers to include the above provisions in a compromise package and pass this important legislation swiftly.

We also urge Congress to provide clear legislative direction to DOE regarding Congressional intent for the use of appropriated funds. We encourage the Appropriations Committee to include language directing federal agencies to consider ways to make their extramural research and development grants easier to navigate, more accessible, and more impactful for small businesses and to provide DOE with flexibility in allocating Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) funding across program offices.

The [2022 Sustainable Energy in America Factbook](#) produced by the Business Council for Sustainable Energy (CEBN’s parent organization) and BloombergNEF highlights just how significant the clean energy economy has become with a record \$105 billion invested into this sector last year. Renewables also had record growth with developers building 37 gigawatts of wind and solar power-generating capacity in 2021. According to the most recent data from the [U.S. Energy and Employment Report](#) (as of 2020), 3.5 million Americans are employed in the sustainable, nuclear and storage energy sectors.

We appreciate Congress’ past support for DOE programs and urge you to stand beside our nation’s entrepreneurs and businesses in building a clean, resilient, and cost-competitive energy system in FY2023 and in pending legislation to support U.S. innovation and global competitiveness.

Sincerely,

**Lynn Abramson, President**

Clean Energy Business Network  
Washington, DC

**Jean Larson**

Batesville, AR

**Antonina Teo**

Pago Pago, AS

**Angela Lipanovich, Owner**

Estriatus Law, PC  
Santa Cruz, CA

**David Arfin, CEO**

NineDot Energy  
Palo Alto, CA

**Greg Thomson, Director of Development**

Clean Coalition  
Sausalito, CA

**Jeff Macon**

Fresno, CA

**Leslie Graham, Director of Development**

Interstate Renewable Energy Council  
Los Angeles, CA

**Tadao Hashimoto, CEO**

SixPoint Materials  
Buellton, CA

**Joe Day**

Boulder, CO

**Melvin Neumann**

Denver, CO

**Sarah Cuiksa, Sustainability & Development Mgr**

Boom Technology, Inc.  
Englewood, CO

**Barton McManus, Owner**

AAA Air Care & Affordable Solar Hot Wtr & Pwr  
Dothan, AL

**John Larson**

Batesville, AR

**Hui Du, CTO**

Ampcera Inc  
Tucson, AZ

**Daniel Emmett, CEO**

Next Energy Technologies Inc.  
Santa Barbara, CA

**Debran Reed**

Elk Grove, CA

**Jeff Horowitz**

Santa Barbara, CA

**Laura Berland-Shane, VP**

Blue Planet Systems  
Los Gatos, CA

**Richard Jarvis, Executive**

Torrent Energy  
Gardena, CA

**Taku Celestin Julius**

Menlo Park, CA

**Lou Villaire, Co-Owner**

Atlasta Solar Center  
Grand Junction, CO

**Salina Derichsweiler, CEO**

Transitional Energy LLC  
Aurora, CO

**Pierre-Richard Presna, Founder/CEO**

e'Lektrik, Inc.  
Bridgeport, CT

**Mario Urdaneta, CEO**  
MicroRecycling Systems  
Washington, DC

**Michael Leifman, President**  
Tenley Consulting  
Washington, DC

**Alexa Stone stone, President**  
ecoPreserve  
Orlando, FL

**Rick Meeker, President**  
Nhu Energy  
Tallahassee, FL

**Nicki Rios**  
Atlanta, GA

**CB Panchal, President**  
E3Tec Service, LLC  
Hoffman Estates, IL

**Jaime di Paulo, President & CEO**  
Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Chicago, IL

**Gabriel Levine**  
Fishers, IN

**Jessica Sweeney**  
Hyde Park, MA

**Kamal Daghistani**  
Boston, MA

**Tricia Dinkel, Director of Navigate**  
NECEC  
Somerville, MA

**Claudia Meer, CEO**  
CoreMax Consulting, Inc.  
North Bethesda, MD

**Mark Joyce, Managing Director**  
Xia' Analytics  
Washington, DC

**Michael Williams, President**  
HomeMe Group, Inc.  
Lewes, DE

**Erika Ginsberg-Klemmt, Director**  
Gismo Power LLC  
Sarasota, FL

**Khamarr Smith**  
Ty Ty, GA

**Paul Cooperrider, President**  
Strategiem LLC  
Garden City, ID

**Esteban Perez**  
Chicago, IL

**Kurt Breitenkamp, President**  
NanoGraf Corporation  
Chicago, IL

**Ashok Cholli, President and CTO**  
Polnox Corporation  
Lowell, MA

**Joe Murphy**  
Springfield, MA

**Rick Schwerdtfeger, CEO**  
Leading Edge Equipment Technologies  
Wilmington, MA

**Brad Johnson, Attorney**  
RMA  
Bethesda, MD

**Elle Carberry**  
Bethesda, MD

**James Horstkamp, President**  
Energy Select, LLC  
Leonardtown, MD

**José Luis Yanqui Parillo**  
Aberdeen, MD

**William Thorne, Director**  
WVT  
Oxon Hill, MD

**Derek Bancroft, Owner**  
Cannafishroom Farms Inc.  
Grayling, MI

**Jamie Fortin, Administrator**  
Opti O2, LLC  
East Lansing, MI

**Gregg Mast, Executive Director**  
Clean Energy Economy Minnesota  
Minneapolis, MN

**Chris Daum, President**  
Oasis Montana Inc.  
Stevensville, MT

**Rick Clemenzi, Principal Engineer**  
Intelli-Products Inc.  
Asheville, NC

**Dennis Wilson, CEO**  
Sunowner Inc  
Whippany, NJ

**Steve Anglin, CEO**  
WeSolar CSP  
Dayton, NJ

**Cara-Leigh Battaglia, Executive Director/CEO**  
BPCA-NYS Inc  
Seneca Falls, NY

**Dwayne Norris, Co-Founder**  
Soulful Synergy, LLC  
Queens Village, NY

**John Garrison**  
Rockville, MD

**Josh Cable, CEO**  
InventWood  
College Park, MD

**Alexander Urquhart**  
North Yarmouth, ME

**Gary Cola, Founder and CTO**  
Flash Steelworks, Inc  
Washington Twp, MI

**Scott Ringlein, Executive Director**  
The Energy Alliance Group of North America  
Ann Arbor, MI

**Rob Appelhof, CEO**  
Cedar Creek Energy  
Blaine, MN

**Rebecca Morris, Director of Marketing**  
Pisgah Energy  
Asheville, NC

**Robert Wills, President**  
Intergrid, LLC  
Temple, NH

**Gaurav Bazaz, CEO**  
Spar Energy  
Montvale, NJ

**Ravi Subramanian**  
Reno, NV

**Darren Wolfberg, CEO**  
Blockchain Triangle Systems Inc.  
Chappaqua, NY

**Elizabeth Halliday**  
Amagansett, NY

**Eric Zeise, Analyst**

Eastman Kodak Co.  
Pittsford, NY

**Guy Longobardo, Chief Operating Officer**

Bettergy Corp.  
Peekskill, NY

**Padma Kasthurirangan, Owner**

Siva Powers America, Inc  
East Amherst, NY

**Sproule Love, Owner**

Allegro Senior Living  
New York, NY

**Alex Zorniger, VP of Business Development**

Power to Hydrogen  
Columbus, OH

**Marite Ball, President**

Blue & Green Planet, Ltd  
Aurora, OH

**Michael Bergey, CEO**

Bergey Windpower Co. LLC  
Norman, OK

**Michael Grainey, Principal**

Michael W Grainey Consulting LLC  
Salem, OR

**Steve Clayton, President / Designer**

Steve Clayton, Inc.  
Talent, OR

**Jacques Smith**

Fort Mill, SC

**Michael Sams, CEO & President**

AMSEnergy Corp  
Columbia, TN

**Jeff Xu, President**

Leaptran, Inc.  
San Antonio, TX

**Franz Bronnimann, Founder & CEO**

Aestus Inc.  
Pawling, NY

**Mahmudul Hasan, Founder and CEO**

CleanEnergy Exploration LLC DBA Nexergy  
Jamaica, NY

**Pat Sapinsley, Owner**

Build Efficiently  
New York, NY

**Victoria Zelin-Cloud, Co-Founder**

Possible Planet  
Rochester, NY

**David Dungy, Dir. Urban Business Development**

MyvatarEP, LLC/CETS Technologies, Inc  
Columbus, OH

**Michael Vojinov**

Toledo, OH

**Tammy James, CEO**

Solar Interchangeable Panels Inc  
Broken Bow, OK

**Rita Hansen, CEO**

Onboard Dynamics, Inc.  
Bend, OR

**Liz Robinson, Executive Director**

Philadelphia Solar Energy Association  
Philadelphia, PA

**John Atkins, President**

TerraShares  
Morristown, TN

**Jay Fraser, President**

New Dominion Enterprises Inc.  
San Antonio, TX

**John Buttles, President**

Texas Wind Tower  
Dallas, TX

**Leigh Anne Bishop**  
Houston, TX

**Michael Martin, President**  
MM Solar Advisory  
Dallas, TX

**Samantha Snabes, Co-Founder : Catalyst**  
re:3D  
Houston, TX

**Zachary Havens**  
Dallas, TX

**Steve Arnold, Founder and President**  
Engine Systems Innovation, Inc.  
Washington, UT

**Dan Beattie**  
Alexandria, VA

**Elyette Weinstein**  
Olympia, WA

**Veronica Petrach**  
Racine, WI

**Max Chan**  
Sugar Land, TX

**Paresh Patel, Founder & CEO**  
e^2=equitable energy  
Katy, TX

**Thomas Ortman, President**  
Nous Energy  
Austin, TX

**Chett Boxley, CEO**  
GlycoSurf, Inc  
Salt Lake City, UT

**Brian Keane, CEO**  
WeeGreen  
Arlington, VA

**Nancy Najarian, Clean Energy Transition Strateg.**  
NAJ Enterprises LLP  
Mclean, VA

**Thomas Kelly, President and CEO**  
Steam Instruments, Inc.  
Madison, WI