



March 20, 2023

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations
154 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Appropriations
413 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

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

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

Dear Chairs Murray and Feinstein and Ranking Members Collins and Kennedy:

The Clean Energy Business Network and business leaders and innovators across our network greatly appreciate recent bipartisan congressional support of cleantech innovation. Over the past five fiscal years, the Appropriations Committees in both chambers and across Republican and Democratic Administrations have recognized the importance of clean energy research, development, and demonstration (RD&D). We applaud the growth of resources allocated to programs across the Departments of Energy, Defense, and Transportation, among others. As small business leaders at the leading edge of this work, we also appreciate Congress' extension of the Small Business Innovation Research program, which has a 40-year track record of successfully bolstering U.S. innovation.

Robust federal support of the national cleantech innovation ecosystem ensures that the U.S. remains economically competitive, and that cutting-edge cleantech innovations, which will underpin a sustainable economy across the globe, will be made here at home. These investments are even more important with global competitors such as China [surpassing American investment in RD&D](#) investment.

Federal investments through the Department of Energy (DOE) in solar, wind, batteries, and EVs have complemented private sector ingenuity to push these technologies down the cost curve. These efforts have helped the cleantech sector reach a renaissance in onshoring of manufacturing with over [\\$92 billion in announcements](#) in the domestic battery supply chain alone in the past two years. A new analysis projects that recently announced cleantech plants are adding [100,000 jobs to the economy](#). It is crucial that federal policy fully harnesses the job creation potential of this momentum and continues to invest in early-stage and applied research in addition to shepherding advanced clean energy technologies to commercialization. This investment spurs private-sector innovation and enables commercialization of many high-risk, high-reward energy technologies.

We urge Congress to continue robust support for cleantech RD&D in the FY24 appropriations process. By protecting and ideally building on existing cleantech funding levels, Congress can position the U.S. to lead in global cleantech deployment and ensure that the DOE innovation pipeline penetrates commercial markets. We are especially supportive of recent [crosscutting initiatives](#) that enable the DOE to have a greater impact with coordinated efforts across the Offices of Science, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Technology Transitions, Clean Energy Demonstrations, and the Loan Programs

Office, among others. Crosscutting initiatives will help deliver real results across advanced manufacturing, critical minerals and materials, energy storage, and grid modernization.

U.S. energy security, jobs, and costs for families and businesses are all at stake. We believe that federal RD&D programs have proven to produce tangible payback for the American people; consumers, businesses, and taxpayers across America are enjoying the benefits of job creation, lower energy bills, increased domestic investment, and healthier communities.

Thank you for your leadership and support of DOE innovation programs. We urge you to continue to stand beside our nation's entrepreneurs and innovators in building a clean, resilient, and cost-competitive energy system in FY24 to support U.S. innovation and global competitiveness.

Sincerely,

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