

July 22, 2026

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

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

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

Dear Chair Collins, Chair Kennedy, and Vice Chair Murray:

As business leaders in the energy industry, we are writing to thank the Appropriations Committee for your past investments in the Department of Energy (DOE) and urge ongoing support in FY 2027—particularly for high-impact innovation programs such as the Office of Technology Commercialization (OTC), Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E), and Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation (CMEI).

As we face dramatic growth in energy demand across the country and simultaneously navigate national security and economic pressures, now is the time to double down on American-made energy solutions. The U.S. must continue investing in a broad portfolio of innovative technologies to ensure affordable and reliable energy for all Americans. Whereas the House FY2027 Energy and Water bill funds OTC below the President’s Budget request and makes cuts to key offices such as ARPA-E and CMEI, we urge the Senate Appropriations Committee to fund these vital programs at robust levels that ensure continued success for technology innovation in a high-energy demand scenario.

In particular, we wish to clarify the need for additional resources for OTC in light of the growing demands on this office. Under the Trump Administration’s restructuring of DOE and other recent changes, many programs relating to energy innovation and commercialization now reside under OTC. We recommend \$81.5 million for OTC to ensure continued robust support for various cross-office small business acceleration programs now within its purview, including the Technology Commercialization Fund, Energy iCorps, Partnership Intermediary Agreements (PIAs), the Vouchers program, the Lab Embedded Entrepreneurship Program (LEEP), and DOE’s world-class Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) programs.

This is a particularly pivotal moment for SBIR/STTR programs, which have powered small business innovation for over 40 years, generating an estimated 66,000 jobs per year¹ and returning \$12 of benefit to the economy for every \$1 invested.² The recently enacted Small Business Innovation and Economic Security Act reauthorized the SBIR/STTR programs for five years and included measures to strengthen commercialization opportunities and foreign due diligence, which will create additional responsibilities for all agencies. Additionally, OTC has indicated plans to overhaul DOE’s SBIR/STTR programs to

¹ <http://sbir.gov/>

² <https://sbtcr.org/advocacy/learn-more-about-sbir/>

streamline application and review, leverage new funding mechanisms and partnerships to increase speed and expand access, accelerate commercialization of new technologies, and ensure responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars.³ Additional resources are essential to ensure successful implementation of these reforms.

Finally, it is not enough to provide these investments; Congress must also ensure they are secure. Recent project cancellations and suspensions have generated significant uncertainty for the business community and undermined faith in federal investments. We urge the Committee to reassert congressional oversight over appropriations by prohibiting the use of FY2027 funds to implement the Office of Management and Budget's proposed Federal Financial Assistance Rule (OMB-2026-0034) and include additional safeguards against project cancellations and redistribution of funds.

We strongly urge you to stand beside the energy research and development community, including small business innovators and entrepreneurs, through robust federal funding in FY27 for energy innovation and commercialization.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Larson (Batesville, AR)
Jo Anne Elsken (Fort Smith, AR)
Kristopher Saunders (Gilbert, AZ)
Ampcera Inc. - Hui Du, CTO (Tucson, AZ)
Neurobehavioral Systems, Inc. - David Woods, CEO (Albany, CA)
VETS E-PWR LLC - Daniel Courselle, Owner (Camarillo, CA)
MY Workforce Solutions LLC - Michelle Yanez, CEO (Diamond Bar, CA)
IFOS Corporation - Behzad Moslehi, CEO (Fremont, CA)
Linda Mellen (Huntington Beach, CA)
Salton Energy Inc. - Roger Yang, Founder (Lake Forest, CA)
Tandem PV - Colin Bailie, CTO (Morgan Hill, CA)
Ann Dorsey (Northridge, CA)
Aeromutable Corporation - Sandra Manosalvas-Kjono, COO (Ramona, CA)
California Hydrogen Business Council - Katrina Fritz, President & CEO (Sacramento, CA)
AJ Cho (San Leandro, CA)
Emily Ruby (San Leandro, CA)
T2M Advisors - Josh Cable, President (Sierra Madre, CA)
Claudine Schneider (Boulder, CO)
Millig Design Build - Aaron Tilden, Engineer (Castle Rock, CO)
Energy Field Security - David Moran, President (Delta, CO)
Kemvera - Brent Cutcliffe, COO (Denver, CO)
Rare Innovation - Timothy Raines, President & Founder (Littleton, CO)
Greater Bridgeport Community Ents. Inc. - Adrienne Farrar Houel, President & CEO (Bridgeport, CT)
Peter Schweinfurth (Greenwich, CT)
Gen-X Solutions LLC - Halle Lisette Pierce, Research Scientist & Innovator (Hamden, CT)
Qualtech Systems, Inc. - Deepak Haste, Senior Director of Engineering (Rocky Hill, CT)
Solution Spray Technologies LLC - Eric Jordan, President (Storrs, CT)

³ <https://www.energy.gov/technologycommercialization/articles/energy-department-announces-overhaul-small-business-innovation>

Clean Energy Business Network - Lynn Abramson, President (Washington, DC)
 MGC Partners - Abby Arnold, Principal (Washington, DC)
 RER Energy Group - Jim Kurtz, President (Washington, DC)
 Sheet Metal AC Contractors National Assoc. - Stan Kolbe, Executive Director (Washington, DC)
 Third Way - Jonathan Lane, Dep. Director for Innovation (Washington, DC)
 Xia' Analytics - Mark Joyce, Managing Director (Washington, DC)
 TalosTech LLC - Hansan Liu, President (Historic New Castle, DE)
 Artic Solar, Inc. - William Guiney, Executive (Green Cove Springs, FL)
 Hydrokinetic Energy Corp. - Walter Schurtenberger, CEO (Key West, FL)
 Semplastics - Sue Easter, Owner (Oviedo, FL)
 EVOENERGY, Inc. - Barry Marsh, Board Member (Stuart, FL)
 Nhu Energy - Rick Meeker, President (Tallahassee, FL)
 Association of Energy Engineers - William Kent, Executive Director (Atlanta, GA)
 Teverra LLC - Hamed Soroush, CEO (Atlanta, GA)
 Tasha Jackson (Atlanta, GA)
 Allister Layne (Conyers, GA)
 Sigma Thermal, Inc. - Jeffrey Ackel, CEO (Marietta, GA)
 Special Power Sources - Roland Dixon, President (Savannah, GA)
 Hawaii Fish Company Inc. - Ron Weidenbach, President & Co-Owner (Waialua, HI)
 Garton Consulting Services - Roland Garton, President (Champaign, IL)
 Zlatko Rozic (Chicago, IL)
 Steven Sondheim (Chicago, IL)
 Ira Kriston (Evanston, IL)
 Carolyn Massey (Quincy, IL)
 Clean Energy Business Council - Dorothy Barnett, Founder (Kansas City, KS)
 WindSoHy - Joe Spease, CEO (Overland Park, KS)
 H2 Catalyst - Nancy Selman, President (Louisville, KY)
 Prometheus Innovations, LLC - Kenneth LaBry, Partner (Lafayette, LA)
 VentureWalk - Desiree Young, Principal (Marrero, LA)
 Biochem - Pei Zhang, President (Boston, MA)
 Damir Fusion Group - Mouad Damir, Founder (Methuen, MA)
 Energy-W - Eduardo Garcia, Project Development (Worcester, MA)
 Euclid Techlabs LLC - Alexei Kanareykin, CEO (Beltsville, MD)
 OTS R&D, Inc. - Cara Martin, CEO (Beltsville, MD)
 Vale Street Advisory, LLC - Paul Allen, Consultant (Chevy Chase, MD)
 Atlantic Biomass, LLC - Robert Kozak, President (Frederick, MD)
 Jim Watson (Lusby, MD)
 Joshua Engineering (an SDVOSB company) - Henry Molintas, CEO (Silver Spring, MD)
 Kilowatts for a Cause - Scott Ringlein, CSO & Founder (Ann Arbor, MI)
 Canton Township - Anne-Marie Graham-Hudak, Canton Township Supervisor (Canton, MI)
 Utility Transformation Consortia - Patrice Horner, Director (Clinton Township, MI)
 Jolt Energy Storage Technologies, LLC - Tom Guarr, CTO (Holland, MI)
 EcoThriveLLC - Jason Ludwigson, Owner (La Crescent, MN)
 Grid Catalyst - Nina Axelson, President (Plymouth, MN)
 Patrick Hosty (Kansas City, MO)
 Hellmuth & Bicknese Architects - Ralph Bicknese, Architect (Saint Louis, MO)
 Maya Whalen-Kipp (Durham, NC)

Susteon Inc. - Raghubir Gupta, CEO (Morrisville, NC)
 Terrabyte - Samuel Harper, CEO & Founder (Omaha, NE)
 Quiet Energy Corporation - Stan Tomlinson, CTO (Durham, NH)
 4.0 Analytics Inc. - Mark Scotland, CEO & President (Newark, NJ)
 Fedsprout - Aalap Shah, President (Princeton, NJ)
 Judith Sheft (Westfield, NJ)
 Equiterra Regenerative Design - Delcie Dobrovolny, Principal (Albuquerque, NM)
 ecoLong LLC - Nancy Min, CEO & Co-Founder (Albany, NY)
 Elizabeth Halliday (Amagansett, NY)
 Aphra Communications - Randy Hecht, Owner (Brooklyn, NY)
 Eric Silverman (Brooklyn, NY)
 Prismark - Mark Christensen, Principal Consultant (Cold Spring Harbor, NY)
 Mike Straight (Elmira, NY)
 BioHydroFuel - Chris Frederick, Founder (Jamestown, NY)
 Build Efficiently, LLC - Pat Sapinsley, Owner (New York, NY)
 Hallmark Investment Corp. - Sproule Love, Owner (New York, NY)
 MAC Global Partners LLC - Tracy McKibben, CEO & Founder (New York, NY)
 Sonia Romero Villanueva (New York, NY)
 Dawnbreaker - Jenny Servo, President (North Chili, NY)
 Rutherford Charlot (Saint Albans, NY)
 Storke, LLC - Ryan Storke, Owner (Springwater, NY)
 Sun Raven LLC - Rebecca Kauffman, Principal (Bend, OR)
 Entrepreneur Futures - Steve Messner, Director (Brookings, OR)
 EnerCity Collaborative - James Metoyer, Executive Director (Portland, OR)
 FluxMagic - Jonathan Bird, CEO (Portland, OR)
 Advanced Cooling Technologies, Inc. - Parthib Rao, Senior Engineer (Lancaster, PA)
 ESSRE Consulting, Inc. - Ed Weinberg, CEO & Founder (Richboro, PA)
 Arctura, Inc. - Neal Fine, CEO (Wakefield, RI)
 Rosebud Energy Services Company - Jaime Poignee, Executive Director (Avon, SD)
 JoAnn McIntosh (Clarksville, TN)
 TerraShares - John Atkins, President (Morristown, TN)
 Overmountain Advisors - Michael Walton, CEO & Founder (Signal Mountain, TN)
 Forever Flight Worldwide - Ryan Wilkoff, Self Employed (Austin, TX)
 Gulf Coast Green Energy - Loy Sneary, CEO (Bay City, TX)
 Blue Sky Measurements, Inc. - John Lievois, CEO (Houston, TX)
 Polykala Technologies LLC - Mark Feng, CEO (Lytle, TX)
 Redfield Consulting Services - Joe Redfield, Owner (San Antonio, TX)
 Michael Earney (Utopia, TX)
 Seerstone Development - Randall Smith, CTO (Provo, UT)
 GlycoSurf, Inc. - Chett Boxley, CEO (Salt Lake City, UT)
 New Energy Ventures - Tony Ruffine, Principal (Arlington, VA)
 The Stella Group, Ltd. - Scott Sklar, President (Arlington, VA)
 OptiMiser - Gamaliel Lodge, Director of Research (Charlottesville, VA)
 At-sea Development LLC - William Taylor, CCO (Falls Church, VA)
 River Connectivity Solutions - Andrew Peters, Founder & Director (Bainbridge Island, WA)
 E8 - Lars Johansson, Investor (Kirkland, WA)
 Emissol LLC - Mansour Masoudi, CEO & Founder (Mill Creek, WA)

Brian Grunkemeyer (Redmond, WA)

Molecule Works Inc. - Wei Liu, CEO (Richland, WA)

Appropriate Technology Group - Brian Allen, Managing Director (Seattle, WA)

Weather Blanket Insulation - George Day, CEO (Fond Du Lac, WI)

COnovate - Carol Hirschmugl, CTO (Milwaukee, WI)

ReCon Associates, LLC - Tim Baye, Managing Member (Verona, WI)

Angela Shock (Morgantown, WV)