

May 5, 2026

Chair Susan Collins
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Room S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Chairman Tom Cole
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Vice Chair Patty Murray
Senate Committee on Appropriations
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray, Chairman Cole, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

Federal support for energy innovation has long been an area of bipartisan agreement and has helped U.S. companies transform new ideas and technologies into economic growth, affordable energy, and a cleaner environment. Sustained investment in these industries is essential to maintaining U.S. leadership, competitiveness, economic stability, and growth in today's volatile energy markets. We respectfully request your support for robust funding for the Department of Energy's (DOE) research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) programs in the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2027 (FY27).

The United States has a long history of leadership in energy innovation, whether in nuclear, renewables, hydraulic fracturing, geothermal, and other emerging technologies. These breakthroughs have led to higher economic growth, better prices for consumers, and lower emissions. Today, other nations are seeking to displace the United States as the global leader in energy innovation by accelerating their own investments in RD&D, especially China. If Congress does not continue to support the next generation of energy solutions, America's competitive edge may be dulled and future markets taken by our adversaries. Our nation cannot afford to be dependent on adversarial countries for critical energy technologies and supply chains, leaving American households and businesses vulnerable to disruptions and price volatility in energy markets.

As the House and Senate Appropriations Committees begin to consider and draft the FY27 appropriations bills, you have a vital opportunity to strengthen America's economic competitiveness in a bipartisan manner by providing steady, robust funding for DOE's RD&D programs. Increasing baseline funding for DOE innovation activities ensures that the U.S. continues to discover, own, produce, and shape the energy technologies that will define the global economic landscape for decades ahead. These investments send a clear message to American inventors, industry leaders, investors, and the rest of the world: America will not cede its global economic leadership in energy technologies and advanced energy systems.

We are grateful for your continued support for energy innovation and your ongoing leadership on these issues. We respectfully ask for increased baseline funding for energy innovation, so that all Americans can continue to benefit from a strong, reliable, affordable, and secure energy system.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Third Way
ClearPath Action
Alternative Fuels & Chemicals Coalition (AFCC)
American Geophysical Union (AGU)
BPC Action
C3 Solutions Action
Carbon Capture Impact
Carbon Utilization Research Council (CURC)
Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (C2ES)
Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions (CRES)
Clean Energy Business Network
Clean Hydrogen Future Coalition
Combined Heat and Power Alliance
Energy Sciences Coalition
Evergreen Climate Innovations
Federation of American Scientists
Framatome Inc.
Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association (FCHEA)
Gradient Geothermal
Great Plains Institute
Heat is Power Association
Industrial Innovation Initiative
Industrious Labs
Lightbridge Corporation
Nuclear Energy Institute
Nuclear Innovation Alliance
Reno + Sparks Chamber of Commerce
Solar Energy Industries Association
State Science & Technology Institute (SSTI)
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium (VNEC)
Xcel Energy