December 5, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Chair
House Committee on Appropriations
2413 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger, Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1026 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Barbara Lee, Chair
Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations
2470 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hal Rogers, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations
2406 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen DeLauro and Lee and Ranking Members Granger and Rogers:

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) is advocating for robust funding for clean energy programs across the federal government in the FY2023 budget, including at the Departments of Energy, Agriculture, Interior, and State and the Environmental Protection Agency. As Congress works to finalize the FY2023 appropriations package, we urge you to include funding to support domestic clean energy and energy efficiency programs and to bolster overall levels of foreign assistance and international climate programs.

BCSE was pleased to see Congress enact the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), P.L. 117-58, and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), P.L. 117-169. These catalytic pieces of legislation will provide much needed policy certainty and a heightened influx of funding into the deployment of a broad portfolio of clean energy and energy efficiency technology solutions, as well as weatherization and state energy programs, hydrogen hubs, and clean energy demonstrations. This legislation will also enable the United States to strengthen its energy security, as well as grid reliability and safety, while boosting economic growth and reducing environmental impacts.

While the IIJA and IRA levels of investment are monumental, they do not preclude the need for sustained, year-on-year increases to clean energy, energy efficiency, and innovation activities that the federal government’s budget supports. These programs require continued funding because they deliver important national benefits, including job creation, economic development, and the leveraging of additional private sector investment into the energy transition.

With these pieces of domestic legislation in hand, Congress has positioned the United States to lead the global energy transition and assist other countries along this pathway. After just returning from leading a large delegation of U.S. companies to the UN Climate Change Conference in Egypt (COP 27), BCSE believes strongly that U.S. leadership on both international climate diplomacy and clean energy finance will create greater global market share for U.S. clean energy industries.

In writing this letter, BCSE reiterates the need for increased levels of funding for overall U.S. foreign assistance and the continued support for critical international clean energy and climate accounts.

Preserving and expanding U.S. financial contributions to these international clean energy and climate programs – including bilateral programs for adaptation, renewable energy, and sustainable landscapes; along with multilateral
programs including the Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund and Least Developed Countries Fund, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Montreal Protocol and Global Environment Facility – will strengthen U.S. credibility and will generate market demand for high quality American clean energy and energy efficiency solutions.

The United States is in a critical international race to become the first-choice provider of solutions to countries working to build a sustainable energy and climate-friendly future. We urge you to boost U.S. competitiveness in this global energy transition market, which was valued in 2021 at $755 billion by BloombergNEF.¹ Achieving this will require expanding both overall U.S. appropriations for foreign assistance and international clean energy and climate finance.

We would be pleased to meet with your staff to discuss BCSE’s views. For further information or to schedule a meeting, please contact Ruth McCormick at Rmccormick@bcse.org.

Sincerely,

Lisa Jacobson
President
Business Council for Sustainable Energy

About the BCSE

BCSE is a coalition of companies and trade associations from the energy efficiency, natural gas and renewable energy sectors, and includes independent electric power producers, investor-owned utilities, public power utilities, project developers, commercial end users and service providers.

Founded in 1992, the Council advocates for policies that expand the use of commercially available clean energy technologies, products, and services. These industries together support over 3 million jobs spread across every state and congressional district in the United States and are united around the revitalization of the economy and the creation of a secure and reliable energy future in America.

¹See Energy Transition Investment Trends, BloombergNEF, 2022.