

April 18, 2024

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

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

The Honorable Brian Schatz, Chair
Subcommittee on Transportation
Housing and Urban Development
722 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation
Housing and Urban Development
702 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen Murray and Schatz and Ranking Members Collins and Hyde-Smith:

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) encourages Congress to provide robust resources for clean energy programs at the U.S. Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development in FY2025. **A document containing clean energy industry funding requests for BCSE members in the FY2025 Transportation Housing and Urban Development Bill can be found [here](#) for your reference.** As a diverse coalition, not all BCSE members endorse or take a position on the set of recommended requests.

The 2024 edition of the [Sustainable Energy in America Factbook](#)¹, published by BCSE and BloombergNEF, demonstrates how clean energy technologies are driving economic growth and providing reliability and resilience for U.S. industry and consumers. The *Factbook* provides a comprehensive look at energy statistics on market growth and contraction and analysis of trends in energy efficiency, natural gas, renewable energy, and other clean energy segments.

A document with top facts from the 2024 edition of the *Sustainable Energy in America Factbook* can be found [here](#). BCSE believes these facts show the value of the investments that have been made in Transportation and Housing clean energy programs.

The *Factbook* shows that renewables and natural gas are two generation sources seeing durability in energy markets. They have grown from a combined 41% of total U.S. power generation to 65% in just a decade. Coal-fired and nuclear generation are seeing a steady decline from 56% of the U.S. generation mix to 34% over the same time period.

In addition, over the past 10 years, U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) has grown 25.5% while primary energy consumption has decreased 4%. The result has been a 30.6% increase in energy productivity. Over the course of a decade, from 1990-2023, the United States has logged a 101% improvement in energy productivity.

¹ <https://bcse.org/market-trends/>



Furthermore, the *Factbook* shows that electric vehicle (EV) sales in the United States surged 50% to nearly 1.46 million vehicles sold. The surge was driven by new EV incentives, price cuts and more EV models released. Supply of renewable diesel and jet fuel, also known as sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), rose 53% and 81% respectively in 2023. Globally, airlines signed a total of 36 agreements to procure SAF from January to early December. U.S.-based airlines led in procurement, likely due to government incentives such as investment tax credits under the Inflation Reduction Act for SAF producers. U.S. renewable natural gas (RNG) production capacity also grew 13% in 2023.

As the U.S. energy economy has transformed over time to embrace cleaner resources and become more energy-efficient, the energy costs of U.S. consumers have remained relatively low and stable. In 2023, energy spending accounted for 4.2% of total U.S. personal consumption expenditures, down 0.6 percentage points from 2022 as the cost of gasoline fell, along with slight drops in the price of natural gas and electricity.

Congress should continue to fund clean energy programs at the U.S. Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development and throughout the federal government to ensure energy security, grid reliability, and safety; to reduce environmental impacts; and to ensure the United States remains economically competitive and leads the world in clean energy and energy efficiency.

BCSE looks forward to working with you to develop a FY2025 budget that achieves fiscal restraint while providing the needed funding for clean energy programs to continue these positive trends. Please feel free to reach out to Ruth McCormick at rmccormick@bcse.org with any questions or to arrange a time to meet.

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, energy storage, natural gas, renewable energy, sustainable transportation, and emerging decarbonization technology sectors. It includes independent electric power producers, investor-owned utilities, public utilities, equipment manufacturers, commercial end users, and service providers in energy and environmental markets. Founded in 1992, the coalition's diverse business membership is united around the revitalization of the U.S. economy and the creation of a clean, secure, and reliable energy future in America.

The Clean Energy Business Network (CEBN), comprising independent small and medium-sized businesses, is an independent affiliate of BCSE. Together, BCSE and CEBN encompass a broad range of the clean energy economy, from Fortune 100 companies to small businesses working in all 50 states and more than 400 Congressional districts. On a national basis, these industries support more than 3 million U.S. jobs.

CC: Members of Senate Appropriations Committee