

April 18, 2025

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

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

The Honorable John Kennedy, Chair
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairs Collins and Kennedy and Vice Chair Murray:

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) encourages Congress to provide robust funding for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in FY2026, in the areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy storage, natural gas, and sustainable transportation. Continued support of research, development, demonstration, and deployment (RDD&D) for our increasingly diverse energy portfolio is critical at this time. The United States is expecting unprecedented energy demand from new industrial sources, transportation, onshoring of U.S. manufacturing, and a burst of new data centers planned by tech companies in the race for artificial intelligence mastery.

A document containing clean energy industry funding requests from BCSE members in the FY2026 Energy and Water Appropriations 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.

DOE energy programs have historically received strong bipartisan support. That support has led to dramatic growth in the use of energy efficiency, natural gas, and renewable energy technologies. According to the [2025 Sustainable Energy in America Factbook](#), natural gas and renewables provided 67% of U.S. electricity in 2024, up from 47% just a decade ago. U.S. energy productivity has also increased 29% over the past 10 years, thanks to investments in energy efficiency. We did not gain this energy diversity and economic bounty by accident.

Additional RDD&D funding is needed to support innovations which will enable us to keep essential energy sources affordable, safe, and reliable. It is also key to remaining competitive in the global marketplace while advancing lower-cost pathways to produce flexible and resilient energy sources. BCSE encourages DOE to invest in both funding and thought leadership to ensure our domestic resources are produced, delivered, and used safely, efficiently, and sustainably.

BCSE looks forward to working with you to develop a FY2026 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

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) is a coalition of companies and trade associations that deploy clean energy and decarbonization solutions, with a sector focus on energy efficiency, natural gas, and renewable energy. Established in 1992, members include investor-owned utilities, public power, independent power producers, project developers, technology providers, equipment manufacturers, environmental and energy market service companies, and more. 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.

BCSE collaborates frequently with its small business division, the Clean Energy Business Network (CEBN), which encompasses a network of more than 8,000 cleantech business and community leaders across all 50 states. Collectively, BCSE and CEBN mobilize the full breadth of the clean energy economy, from innovators and small businesses to industry leaders and the trade associations that represent them. On a national basis, these industries support more than 3 million U.S. jobs.

CC: Members of Senate Appropriations Committee