April 10, 2018

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chairman
Senate Energy & Water Subcommittee
184 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Simpson
Chairman
House Energy & Water Subcommittee
2084 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Senate Energy & Water Subcommittee
184 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Ranking Member
House Energy & Water Subcommittee
2186 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Alexander, Ranking Member Feinstein, Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Kaptur,

As diverse organizations interested in the Department of Energy's Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy (ARPA-E) program, we thank you for the significant funding for this vital program in the recently enacted Fiscal Year 2018 Omnibus. ARPA-E plays a unique and critical role in maintaining America's global leadership in energy technologies. As you begin drafting the Fiscal Year 2019 Energy and Water Appropriations bills, the undersigned organizations, companies and institutions urge you to support our competitiveness and energy security by funding ARPA-E in the Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations bill at least at $375 million.

ARPA-E is a highly innovative and effective program which enjoys strong bipartisan congressional support. Since its inception, ARPA-E has successfully sponsored a dynamic range of research, including technologies with potentially profound benefits for the nation's future energy security. Modeled after the highly successful Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), ARPA-E supports "high-risk, high-reward" research which has the potential to drastically alter how we make and use energy in the future. The program utilizes a unique and highly successful selection process to identify innovative technologies, pushes them to meet aggressive milestones and helps them to cross the valley of death so the private sector can then commercialize them.

Despite being less than a decade old, ARPA-E is already fostering groundbreaking technological innovations in energy storage, advanced nuclear, and carbon capture and sequestration. In its nearly 10-year history, 136 of more than 340 completed projects supported by ARPA-E have attracted over $2.6 billion in private sector follow-on funding, and 71 projects have gone on to form new companies. The enthusiasm for ARPA-E's vision and quality of work is evidenced by its ability to repeatedly draw more than 2,000 entrepreneurs, state and federal government officials, state and federal agencies and large numbers of investors to its annual Energy Innovation Summit.

The importance of U.S. leadership in energy technologies to our economic and energy security makes ARPA-E a tremendous competitive advantage for our nation. Stable and sustained funding growth is necessary to ensure this successful program continues to spearhead America's energy research.

Sincerely,

Achates Power

American Chemical Society

American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

American Council for Capital Formation (ACCF)

American Geophysical Union

American Society of Agronomy

American Superconductor Corporation

ASME

Association of American Universities

Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

BASF Corporation

Bettergy Corp.

BPC Action

Brayton Energy

Canvas

Center for Carbon Removal

Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (C2ES)

Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions

Clean Energy Business Network

Clean Energy Trust

Cleantech Alliance

ClearPath Action

Crop Science Society of America

Dioxide Materials

Duke University

E2 (Environmental Entrepreneurs)

Elemental Excelerator, Inc.

Energy Technology Savings, Inc.

Fireplace Editions

G2VP

Gas Technology Institute

Georgia Institute of Technology

Gnosys, Inc.

Greentown Labs

Gulf Coast Green Energy

Industrial Microbes

Information Technology and Innovation Foundation

Johnson Controls

Kegotank Farm

Marine BioEnergy, Inc.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Michigan State University

Michigan Technological University

NAATBatt International

Natron Energy, Inc.

NECEC: Northeast Clean Energy Council

Newton Energy Group LLC

Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI)

Onboard Dynamics, Inc.

Oregon BEST

OSA-The Optical Society

Otherlab

Penn State University

Powerhouse

Prelude Ventures

Prospect Silicon Valley

ProsumerGrid, Inc.

RedWave Energy, Inc.

SAFCell

SixPoint Materials, Inc.

SLIPS Technologies Inc.

Sloane, Offer, Weber and Dern, LLP

Soil Science Society of America

Solar Turbines Incorporated

Spruce Capital Partners

SSTI

Starfire Energy

Stony Brook University

Swift Coat, Inc.

TechNet

Tenley Consulting

TerraShares

The Texas A&M University System

Third Way

Union of Concerned Scientists

University of California System

University of California, Berkeley

University of California, Davis

University of California, Irvine

University of California, Los Angeles

University of California, Merced

University of California, Riverside

University of California, San Diego

University of California, Santa Barbara

University of California, Santa Cruz

University of Colorado Boulder

University of Delaware

University of Houston System

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

University of Maryland, College Park

University of Oregon

University of Rochester

University of Wisconsin – Madison

Urban Future Lab/ ACRE Incubator

Vanderbilt University

Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering, Harvard University

---

Cc:

Senate Majority Leader McConnell

Senate Democratic Leader Schumer

Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Thad Cochran

Senate Appropriations Committee Ranking Member Patrick Leahy

House Speaker Ryan

House Democratic Leader Pelosi

House Appropriations Committee Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen

House Appropriations Committee Ranking Member Nita Lowey