Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

April 1, 2019

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur Chairwoman Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Committee on Appropriations 2362-B Rayburn House Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Simpson
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Kaptur and Ranking Member Simpson:

As you work to finalize the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 funding for the energy and water development appropriations bill, we write to express our support for an increased funding level of at least \$2.6 billion for FY 2020 for the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) and its critical programs that partner the federal government with industry, academia, and research facilities to secure America's energy future. We believe the work done at DOE EERE is critical to preserving our long-term safety and security.

The American people expect us to work together to set priorities and make smart, strategic decisions about federal funding. That is why funding for EERE must be a priority in FY 2020. EERE plays a key role in advancing America's "all of the above" energy strategy, leading a large network of researchers and other partners to deliver innovative technologies that will help make renewable electricity generation more cost-competitive with traditional sources of energy and create jobs right here in the United States. An overreliance on a limited range of fuel technologies and finite resources is shortsighted – our strength lays in our ability to transition to new, cleaner, more sustainable and more innovative sources of energy. We must invest to remain competitive, or we risk falling behind.

By rejecting the President's proposed 70 percent cut and instead supporting a 10 percent increase from the FY 2019 enacted level funding for DOE EERE, Congress signals to our scientists and engineers at home and around the world that we are serious about rising to meet the growing demand for cheaper, more sustainable energy. This investment will help us continue to reduce our dependence on foreign sources of energy, enhance our competitiveness and create good American jobs well into the future. The United States should be leading the world in the search for better, safer, more affordable energy. For these reasons, we urge you to provide an investment of at least \$2.6 billion for EERE in FY 2020.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

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