

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 15, 2016

The Honorable Mike Simpson  
Chairman  
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 Marcy Kaptur  
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 Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Kaptur:

As you begin work on the fiscal year (FY) 2017 energy and water appropriations bill, we write to express our support for the President's budget request of \$2.898 billion 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.

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 2017. 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. 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 prioritizing funding for EERE, Congress will be signaling 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. By preserving our capacity to innovate, we will 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 include \$2.898 billion for EERE in FY 2017.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,



Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress

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Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress

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James R. Langevin  
Member of Congress

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Brendan F. Boyle  
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Joyce Beatty  
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Ted W. Lieu  
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Mark Takai  
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Denny Heck  
Member of Congress

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Julia Brownley  
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Gwen Moore  
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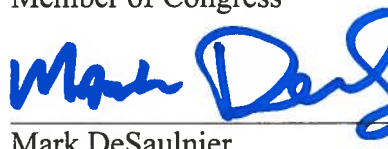
  
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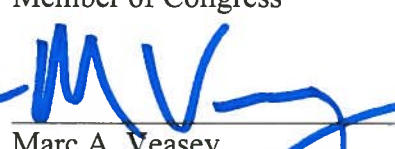
  
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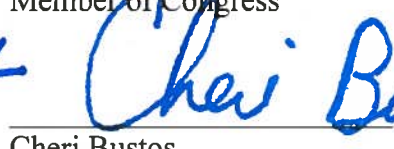
  
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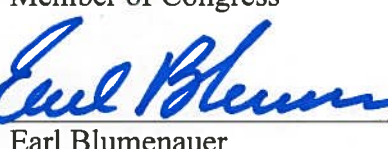
  
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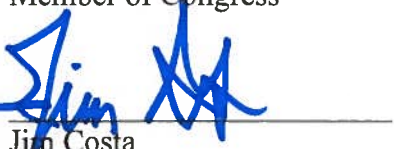
  
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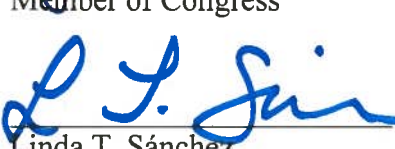
  
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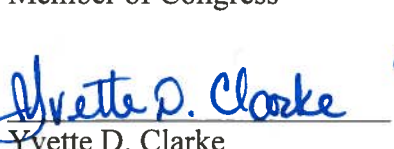
  
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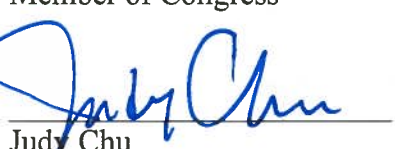
  
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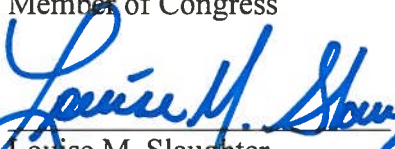
  
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