

ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION

Statement in Support of the Completion of Fiscal Year 2017 Appropriations for the Department of Energy Office of Science

The member organizations of the Energy Sciences Coalition (ESC) urge Congress to pass a final Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Energy and Water appropriations bill and include at least \$5.4 billion for the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science. This level of funding is consistent with Office of Science appropriations approved by both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives in previous FY 2017 Energy and Water Development appropriations bills. We urge you to make robust and sustained funding for the DOE Office of Science a continued priority.

The DOE Office of Science plays a critical role in ensuring U.S. leadership in many scientific fields, both in pursuit of fundamental discovery and to advance our energy and national security. The DOE Office of Science is the primary government sponsor for research in high energy and nuclear physics, heavy-element chemistry, plasma physics, magnetic fusion and catalysis. It is also a leading research sponsor for advanced materials, biological sciences and computing relevant to a broad range of energy applications. In addition, the DOE Office of Science builds and maintains world-leading science facilities used by more than 32,000 researchers from academic, industry, and government laboratories each year to advance fundamental scientific knowledge. Strong and sustained funding is required to advance U.S. leadership in these long-term, research-intensive disciplines and build unique science facilities.

The United States' research enterprise is at a critical inflection point. With many nations increasing their research investments to stimulate economic growth and the United States' investments remaining flat, we risk losing our competitive edge. China, India, South Korea, the European Union and others are mirroring our approach to innovation and are expanding their investments in scientific research and facilities. A recent study (Global Innovation Index 2016) ranks the United States fourth among world leaders in innovation, and the U.S. has fallen to 10th in dollars invested in research as a percentage of GDP.

A full year Continuing Resolution would be problematic, as it would continue inadequate funding levels; ignore inflation; and create deep uncertainty for federal agencies, researchers, students, universities and industry that utilize DOE Office of Science programs. Even in times of tight budgets, the United States must make the pro-growth investments in scientific research that will create new industries, support new jobs, and strengthen our economy.

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The Energy Sciences Coalition (ESC) is a broad-based coalition of organizations representing scientists, engineers and mathematicians in universities, industry and national laboratories who are committed to supporting and advancing the scientific research programs of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and in particular, the DOE Office of Science.

Agronomy, Crop and Soil Science Societies
American Association for the Advancement
of Science
American Astronomical Society
American Chemical Society
American Geophysical Union
American Geosciences Institute
American Institute of Physics
American Mathematical Society
American Physical Society
American Society for Engineering
Education
American Society of Agronomy
American Society of Mechanical Engineers
American Society for Microbiology
American Society of Plant Biologists
Arizona State University
Association of American Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant
Universities
Battelle
Binghamton University
Biophysical Society
Boston University
Case Western Reserve University
Clemson University
Coalition for Academic Scientific
Computation (CASC)
Columbia University
Computing Research Association
Cornell University
Cray Inc.
Crop Science Society of America
Duke University
Federation of American Societies for
Experimental Biology
Florida State University
Fusion Power Associates
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Geological Society of America
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Society for Industrial and Applied
Mathematics
Soil Science Society of America
South Dakota School of Mines
Southeastern Universities Research
Association
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Tech-X
The Ohio State University
The Optical Society (OSA)
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