



ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION

March 5, 2019

Dear Senate Majority Leader McConnell and Senate Minority Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the more than 90 organizations representing scientists, engineers, and mathematicians in universities, industry, and national laboratories who support and advance the scientific research programs of the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science, we ask that you swiftly confirm Dr. Christopher Fall for the position of Director of the Office of Science.

Dr. Fall's extensive experience as Chief Scientist and Director of Research at the Department of Defense's Office of Naval Research, Assistant Director for Defense Programs at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and most recently as Principal Deputy Director of DOE's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (APRA-E), make him well qualified for the position.

Equally important, the Office of Science is the largest government sponsor for basic research in the physical sciences and is leading major science and technology initiatives vital to American prosperity and security, and yet the Office has not had a Senate-confirmed Director in more than two years. The Office of Science should be commended for its stewardship of major research efforts and the construction of world-leading facilities, but a Senate-confirmed Director is needed more than ever to set clear research and science infrastructure priorities at a time when the U.S. is facing major international competition from countries around the world and U.S. economic competitiveness and national security increasingly rely on innovations in science and technology.

The Office of Science is one of the lead federal science agencies advancing innovative high-risk, high reward research, including quantum science and technology, artificial intelligence and machine learning, genomics, microelectronics, and novel materials for energy and national security applications. This diverse portfolio of research supports approximately 22,000 Ph.D. scientists, engineers, graduate students, undergraduates and technical personnel at more than 300 institutions across all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The Office of Science also supports the construction and operation of the largest collection of major scientific user facilities in the world. Located at national laboratories and universities across the country, these 27 open-access facilities include particle accelerators, experimental reactors, X-ray synchrotron and free-electron laser light sources, leadership-class supercomputers and other high-precision instruments. Annually, more than 36,000 researchers from academia, industry and federal agencies use these facilities to support their pursuits in science and engineering.

The confirmation of Dr. Chris Fall cannot come at a more important time as the U.S. makes major investments in new areas of research and builds the next-generation of world-class science facilities.

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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.

ESC Membership

American Association for the Advancement of Science	IBM
American Association of Physicists in Medicine	IEEE-USA
American Association of Physics Teachers	Iowa State University
American Chemical Society	Jefferson Science Associates, LLC
American Crystallographic Association	Krell Institute
American Geophysical Union	Lehigh University
American Geosciences Institute	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
American Institute of Physics	Materials Research Society
American Mathematical Society	Michigan State University
American Society for Engineering Education	Michigan Technological University
American Society of Agronomy	New Mexico State University
Acoustical Society of America (ASA)	New York University
American Society of Mechanical Engineers	Northeastern University
American Society for Microbiology	Northern Illinois University
American Society of Plant Biologists	Northwestern University
American Vacuum Society	Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU)
Arizona State University	OSA—The Optical Society
Association of American Universities	Pace University
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities	Princeton University
Battelle	Purdue University
Binghamton University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Biophysical Society	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Boston University	Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
Case Western Reserve University	Soil Science Society of America
City College of CUNY	South Dakota School of Mines
Clemson University	Southeastern Universities Research Association
Coalition for Academic Scientific Computation (CASC)	Stanford University
Consortium for Ocean Leadership	Stony Brook University
Columbia University	Tech-X Corporation
Computing Research Association	University of Central Florida
Council of Scientific Society Presidents	University of Chicago
Cornell University	University of Colorado Boulder
Cray Inc.	University of Delaware
Crop Science Society of America	University of Maryland, College Park
Duke University	University of Michigan
The Ecological Society of America	University of Missouri System
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology	University of North Texas
Florida State University	University of Pennsylvania
Fusion Power Associates	University of Rochester
General Atomics	University of Southern California
George Mason University	University of Texas at Austin
Georgia Institute of Technology	University of Virginia
Health Physics Society	University of Wisconsin-Madison
	Washington State University
	Washington University in St. Louis
	West Virginia University
	Yale University