

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

March 14, 2016

The Honorable Mike Simpson  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Energy and Water Development  
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Energy and Water Development  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Kaptur:

We are writing to express our strong support for the fusion energy research programs funded by the Office of Fusion Energy Sciences (FES) at the Department of Energy's Office of Science. We appreciate the funding level provided for fusion energy research in the FY 2016 Omnibus Appropriations bill, and we request that you continue to invest in this critical area by including robust funding in FY 2017 for both the domestic fusion research and facilities program and the United States' contributions to the international ITER project.

As you know, fusion power is a safe, clean, and sustainable energy source that could provide the United States with energy independence and a nearly limitless energy supply. The pursuit of this vital energy source, both through the research and facilities program and through domestic contributions to ITER, drives innovation in important areas of science and technology and has bred a first-rate fusion workforce in the United States. The United States has always led the fusion field, playing a key role in its origination and conducting many of the milestone experiments that have advanced fusion science. University programs, labs, and facilities throughout the country are critical to maintaining U.S. leadership in developing fusion power, as is our participation in ITER.

We look forward to the Secretary of Energy's May 2nd report on future U.S. participation in ITER. In the meantime, we respectfully request that you include at least \$458 million for the fusion energy sciences program: \$333 million for the domestic fusion research and facilities program and \$125 million for U.S. participation in ITER. This funding level will help reinvigorate our university programs so they remain the best in the world, allow better utilization of our world-leading experiments, and ensure that key areas of fusion and plasma-related science and technology can move forward.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



**BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN**  
Member of Congress

Aed Demery  
Member of Congress

Bill Pascrell Jr  
Member of Congress

Chris Smith  
Member of Congress

Robert G. Fattah  
Member of Congress

Alan M. Smith  
Member of Congress

Shela Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress

Alan B. Laff  
Member of Congress

Katherine M. Clark  
Member of Congress

Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress

Eleanor H. Norton  
Member of Congress

Robert W. Byrd  
Member of Congress

Steve Largent  
Member of Congress

Hvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress

Diana DeBette  
Member of Congress

Greg M. Meigs  
Member of Congress

Erin Grune  
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress

Tom Hoyer  
Member of Congress

Art Heller  
Member of Congress

Ron Kind  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

Jim Mc Dermott

Matthew A. Coyle

Michael E. Capuano

Steve Cohe

Judy Ann

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Member of Congress



Member of Congress