

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 5, 2017

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) 2018 energy and water appropriations bill, we write to express our support for robust funding 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 understand the difficult budgetary choices you face, but we believe this work done at DOE 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 2018. 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 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 robust funding for EERE in FY 2018.

Thank you for considering our request.


Sincerely,





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Member of Congress


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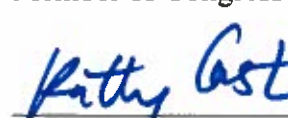

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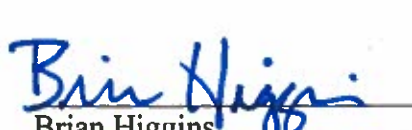

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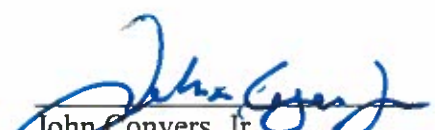

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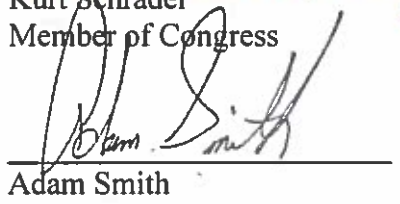

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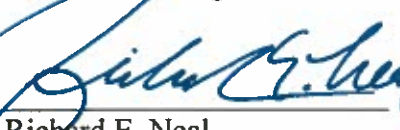

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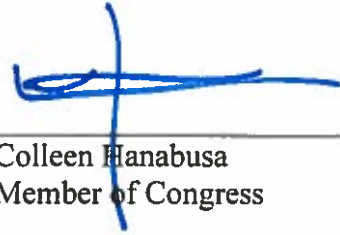

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