



## ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION

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January 28, 2026

Dear Chairman Fleischmann and Ranking Member Kaptur,

On behalf of the over 100 organizations that are members of the Energy Sciences Coalition (ESC), we would like to thank you for final FY 2026 appropriations for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill (H.R. 6938). Despite significant funding constraints that the subcommittee worked under, we appreciate your strong support and leadership in prioritizing funding for the Office of Science and advancing the agency's research, infrastructure, and workforce development priorities. We also want to thank the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee staff focused on Office of Science issues – Perry Yates and Scott McKee – for their professionalism, accessibility and interest in the research priorities of the science community.

The \$160 million, or 2 percent, increase above the FY 2025 enacted funding level was necessary to maintain stability of funding for the DOE Office of Science. In particular, we appreciate stability of funding across all major Office of Science fundamental research programs that lay the groundwork for future energy and emerging technologies. Equally important, the bill continues to prioritize funding for construction and upgrades to world-leading facilities to stay ahead of increasingly challenging international competition and maintains operations of 28 Office of Science-supported scientific user facilities that provide access to more than 32,000 researchers from academia, industry and federal agencies. New targeted investments will also allow DOE to move forward with emerging technologies including artificial intelligence as part of the new Genesis Mission, quantum information science, and microelectronics as well as promising energy technologies such as fusion energy. As a leading federal science agency, the Office of Science provides a significant return on basic research investment in driving new technologies, science applications, job creation, and entrepreneurship.

As we look to FY 2027, we hope you will continue to provide the bold investments needed for the DOE Office of Science to stay ahead of international competition. Additional investments will be needed, among other things, to complete construction and optimize operations of new research facilities, provide seed funding for the planning and design of the next generation of research facilities, scale workforce development programs to grow STEM talent especially in AI and quantum, invest in new initiatives such as Genesis to take advantage of AI for science, energy, and national security applications and implement the bold vision of the Fusion Science and Technology Roadmap, and upgrade aging infrastructure at the DOE national laboratories.

*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.*

The U.S. is well positioned to win the science and technology race and the Office of Science with its network of DOE national labs and research universities is uniquely positioned to maintain a U.S. competitiveness advantage. The Office of Science has clear science and technology roadmaps and investments strategies with a long history of completing projects on time and on budget, but sustained and robust funding is essential to successfully execute these priorities.

Thank you again for your leadership and support for the Office of Science and we look forward to continued engagement in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

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## ESC Membership

American Association for the Advancement of Science  
American Association of Physicists in Medicine  
American Association of Physics Teachers  
American Astronomical Society  
American Chemical Society  
American Crystallographic Association  
American Geophysical Union  
American Geosciences Institute  
American Institute of Physics  
American Mathematical Society  
American Nuclear Society  
American Physical Society  
American Society for Engineering Education  
American Society of Agronomy  
Acoustical Society of America (ASA)  
American Society of Mechanical Engineers  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society of Plant Biologists  
American Vacuum Society  
Arizona State University  
Association of American Universities  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities  
AVS – The Society for Science and Technology of  
Materials, Interfaces, and Processing  
Battelle  
Binghamton University  
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Boston University  
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Coalition for Academic Scientific Computation (CASC)  
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Computing Research Association  
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Biology  
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