



ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION

January 28, 2026

Dear Chairman Kennedy and Ranking Member Murray,

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 – Bill McNavage and Aaron Goldner – 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
Biophysical Society
Boston University
Case Western Reserve University
City College of CUNY
Clemson University
Coalition for Academic Scientific Computation (CASC)
Consortium for Ocean Leadership
Columbia University
Computing Research Association
Council of Graduate Schools
Council of Scientific Society Presidents
Cornell University
Crop Science Society of America
Duke University
The Ecological Society of America
Federation of American Societies for Experimental
Biology
Florida State University
Fusion Power Associates
General Atomics
Geological Society of America
George Mason University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University
Health Physics Society
Hewlett Packard Enterprise
IBM
IEEE-USA
Iowa State University
Jefferson Science Associates, LLC
Krell Institute
Lehigh University
Long Island University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Materials Research Society
Miami University of Ohio
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
New York University
Northeastern University
Northern Illinois University
Northwestern University
Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU)
Pace University
Penn State University
Princeton University
Purdue University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
Soil Science Society of America
South Dakota School of Mines
Southeastern Universities Research Association
SPIE
Stanford University
Stony Brook University
Tech-X Corporation
Tufts University
The Ohio State University
University of California System
University of Chicago
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Delaware
University Fusion Association
University of Hawaii
University of Illinois System
University of Iowa
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Michigan
University of Missouri System
University of Nebraska
University of North Texas
University of Oklahoma
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University of Rochester
University of Southern California
University of Tennessee
University of Texas at Austin
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Universities Research Association
Vanderbilt University
Washington State University
West Virginia University
Yale University