

May 20, 2022

Chairwoman Dianne Feinstein  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water  
Development, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
188 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Mike Simpson  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water  
Development, and Related Agencies  
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188 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
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Dear Chairwoman Feinstein and Ranking Member Kennedy,

As you begin your work on the FY 2023 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, the undersigned organizations urge you to provide a one-time appropriation of \$31.5 million to establish the Department of Energy Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation (FESI).

FESI would fill a critical gap in successfully transitioning new energy technologies into the market and meeting the nation's energy security and climate goals. FESI is consistent with the *Partnerships for Energy Security and Innovation Act* passed by both the Senate in June 2021 as part of the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act ([S.1260](#)) and the House in February 2022 as part of the America Competes Act ([H.R. 4863](#)). The creation of FESI will be included in the final innovation package Congress is currently negotiating. The funding recommendation is also consistent with the May 2020 Information Technology and Innovation Foundation report *Mind the Gap: A Design for a New Energy Technology Commercialization Foundation*.

As a nonprofit foundation, the FESI would channel private-sector investments to help support the creation, development and commercialization of next generation energy technologies across the country. FESI would complement the Department of Energy's (DOE) new Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations and the types of clean energy projects proposed in the Energy Infrastructure Act and funded in the Infrastructure and Investments Jobs Act. This type of foundation would help capitalize on the federal government's investments in clean energy research and development by attracting private sector investment and partnership, as well as philanthropic donations. In particular, the FESI would pool resources to support innovative teams from industry, universities, national laboratories, state energy offices and incubators to commercialize new energy technologies. The FESI would leverage its connection to DOE to connect innovators with world-leading facilities, instrumentation, and experts at the 17 DOE national laboratories and DOE-funded research universities and bring to market the most promising energy technologies. A FESI would also help unlock and guide the untapped intellectual property held at DOE-funded national laboratories and research universities beyond just clean energy technologies to a broader portfolio of technologies to address national security, environmental, manufacturing, and other areas of U.S. competitiveness.

We believe that it is time for DOE to have a foundation of its own to support its mission of ensuring America's security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions. Modeled after the successful Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and other congressionally-mandated agency-affiliated foundations, the FESI would complement DOE investments in cutting-edge research and help bridge the gap between innovative but unproven prototypes and successful commercialization and penetration of new technology into the market.

With a one-time, modest investment of \$31.5 million, the FESI would help accelerate innovation, strengthen the U.S. economy and bolster our global competitiveness as well as provide a new funding stream to help commercialize DOE technologies and improve relationships between the public and private sectors.

Thank you for your leadership and dedication to improving America's scientific enterprise.

Sincerely,

Activate Global Inc.  
ADL Ventures  
Algae Biomass Organization  
Alliance to Save Energy  
American Association of Physicists in Medicine  
American Association of Physics Teachers  
American Chemical Society  
American Crystallographic Association  
American Physical Society  
American Society for Engineering Education  
American Society of Plant Biologists  
American Sustainable Business Council  
Associated Universities, Inc.  
Association of American Universities  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities  
Association of University Research Parks  
AVS – The Society for Science and Technology of Materials, Interfaces and Processing  
Biophysical Society  
BPC Action  
Broad Reach Growth  
BRITE Energy Innovators  
Business Council for Sustainable Energy  
C2ES  
CalCharge  
Carbicare Inc.  
Carbon Direct  
Carbon Upcycling  
The Center for Climate and Energy Solutions  
Clean Energy Business Network  
Climate-KIC CA  
Confluence Philanthropy  
Conservative Coalition for Climate Solutions  
Council on Competitiveness  
The Council of Scientific Society Presidents  
DNV  
Ecological Society of America  
Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)  
Elemental Excelsior  
E-Mission Control  
Evergreen Climate Innovations  
Federation of American Scientists  
FedTech

Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association  
Gas Technology Institute  
GE Research  
Green Connections Media LLC  
Greentown Labs, Inc.  
GridWise  
Health Physics Society  
HelioBioSys, Inc.  
High Noon Advisors  
Huan Nani Partners  
Imperative Ventures  
Information Technology and Innovation ~~Fund~~  
JLW Advising  
JumpStart Inc.  
Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI)  
MegaJoule Ventures, LLC  
Michigan State University  
Momentum  
National Association of State Energy Officials  
National Grid  
Nuclear Innovation Alliance  
The Ocean Foundation  
Ohio Fuel Cell Coalition  
Optica (formerly OSA)  
Prime Coalition  
Purdue University  
RFC Enterprises  
Social Venture Circle  
Stony Brook University  
Sutro Energy Group  
Third Way  
United States Nuclear Industry Council  
University of Arizona  
US Research Impact Alliance  
VentureWell  
Washington Maritime Blue  
Washington State University  
Yale University