

ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION

November 25, 2014

The Honorable Shaun Donovan
Director
Office of Management and Budget
Eisenhower Executive Office Building
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Donovan:

President Obama has said that funding for research should be a priority for our country. We completely agree. As you prepare the Administration's fiscal year 2016 budget request, we strongly urge you to provide robust and sustained funding for the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science and the important research and scientific facilities it supports, and to make this funding a priority.

The basic research supported by the DOE Office of Science provides the scientific and technical foundation the nation needs to address some of our most pressing challenges in discovery science, energy, medicine, and national and homeland security. In many cases, this research would not be possible without the suite of complex, cutting-edge, world-class facilities operated and maintained by the DOE Office of Science for use by tens of thousands of scientists and engineers from academia, industry, and other government agencies.

Among other things, the DOE Office of Science is supporting basic research applicable to the development of cost-effective and sustainable biofuels, the creation of advanced materials with unique properties of broad application to the energy and defense sectors, the development of fusion power for clean and abundant energy, the design of next-generation supercomputers 1,000 times faster and more powerful than the best that exist today, and the advancement of medical imaging technologies to help detect, diagnose, and treat diseases. Federal investment in basic scientific research has and will continue to deliver breakthroughs in these and other areas that will drive innovation, strengthen our competitiveness, sustain our economic growth, and create jobs.

Our economic competitors in China, India, South Korea, the European Union, and elsewhere are copying our approach to innovation and increasing their rate of investment in research and development. At the same time, sequestration's spending caps are undermining continued U.S. leadership in science and technology. Now is not the time to reduce federal investment in the basic research and scientific facilities that are so critical to future economic growth.

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.

We recognize the challenge you face working with such a constrained federal budget, but we believe funding for the DOE Office of Science must be a priority, and is justified. For these reasons, we strongly urge you to make the DOE Office of Science a priority in the Administration's fiscal year 2016 budget request.

Sincerely,

American Astronomical Society	IBM
American Chemical Society	Iowa State University
American Geophysical Union	Jefferson Science Associates, LLC
American Geosciences Institute	Krell Institute
American Institute of Physics	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
American Mathematical Society	Materials Research Society
American Physical Society	Michigan State University
American Society for Engineering Education	Northern Illinois University
American Society of Agronomy	Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU)
American Society of Mechanical Engineers	Pace University
American Society for Microbiology	Pennsylvania State University
American Society of Plant Biologists	Princeton University
Arizona State University	Purdue University
Association of American Universities	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Battelle	Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
Binghamton University	Soil Science Society of America
Boston University	South Dakota School of Mines
Case Western Reserve University	Southeastern Universities Research Association
Clemson University	Stanford University
Coalition for Academic Scientific Computation (CASC)	SUNY at Binghamton
Columbia University	Tech-X
Computing Research Association	The Ohio State University
Cornell University	University of California System
Cray Inc.	University of Chicago
Crop Science Society of America	University of Colorado Boulder
Duke University	University of Delaware
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology	University of Maryland, College Park
Florida State University	University of Michigan
Fusion Power Associates	University of North Texas
Geological Society of America	University of Southern California
George Mason University	University of Texas at Austin
Georgia Institute of Technology	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Harvard University	Vanderbilt University
	Washington University in St. Louis
	West Virginia University

cc: The Honorable John Holdren, Assistant to the President for Science and Technology;
Director, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
The Honorable Ernie Moniz, Secretary of Energy