

September 20, 2022

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

The Honorable Shalanda Young
Director for Office of Management and Budget
Eisenhower Executive Office Building
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20504

Dear Secretary Granholm and Director Young,

As you prepare the fiscal year (FY) 2024 budget request to Congress, the undersigned organizations urge you to include \$31.5 million in the Department of Energy budget to establish the Department of Energy Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation (FESI). This level of funding is consistent with the bipartisan *CHIPS and Science Act* signed into law on August 9 that authorizes the creation of FESI. The FY 2024 budget presents the first opportunity to launch and properly fund 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. 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 also complement the Department of Energy's (DOE) clean energy demonstration activities funded in the Infrastructure and Investments Jobs Act and annual appropriations bills.

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.

This is a unique opportunity 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
Center for Houston's Future
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
Infineon Technologies Americas Corp.
Information Technology and Innovation ~~Fundin~~
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
University of Rochester
US Research Impact Alliance
VentureWell
Washington Maritime Blue
Washington State University
Yale University