March 21, 2017

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chairwoman
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Udall
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Support for FY2017 and FY2018 Funding for ENERGY STAR®

Dear Chairwoman Murkowski and Ranking Member Udall:

We, the undersigned organizations and businesses, write today to express our strong support for the ENERGY STAR® program. This voluntary partnership program—which includes ENERGY STAR Buildings and Plants, Home Performance with ENERGY STAR for existing homes and certified new homes, and ENERGY STAR for Small Business, as well as ENERGY STAR labeled products—helps businesses, state and local governments, non-profit organizations, institutions of higher education, homeowners, and consumers save money by investing in energy efficiency. ENERGY STAR accomplishes several highly desirable goals at once: it helps consumers reduce high energy bills, promotes economic growth by stimulating investment in new technology, reduces pollution through cost-effective measures, and helps ensure the reliability of our electric system by reducing peak demand. We urge you to support at least level funding for the ENERGY STAR program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 and FY2018.

ENERGY STAR has a proven track record of success and is extremely cost-effective. Today, ENERGY STAR enjoys brand awareness of about 90%, which makes it the most widely recognized symbol for energy efficiency. For every incremental dollar Americans invested in energy efficiency under ENERGY STAR, they reduced their energy bills by an average of $4.50. In 2015 alone, American consumers and businesses saved over $34 billion with the help of ENERGY STAR. Since 1992, ENERGY STAR has helped families and businesses save $430 billion on utility bills, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2.7 billion metric tons.

Through brand recognition, information and positive publicity, the ENERGY STAR program has provided the catalyst for many consumers, homeowners, businesses, and state and local governments to invest in energy efficiency.

ENERGY STAR serves broad constituencies across every state in the country, working with over 16,000 partners. In the energy efficiency sector, 2.2 million Americans work in whole or in part on the design, manufacture, and installation of ENERGY STAR products and under ENERGY STAR programs. ENERGY STAR includes over 1,800 manufacturing partners of over 70 different product categories, who sold more than 300 million qualified products in the U.S. in 2015. About 45% of the commercial building floor space in the U.S. has been benchmarked for tracking and analyzing energy consumption using ENERGY STAR’s Portfolio Manager. ENERGY STAR also counts more than 3,100 home builder partners who constructed...
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almost 1.8 million certified new homes since 1995. In 2015, families living in ENERGY STAR certified homes saved over $625 million on utility bills, while 89,000 households hired 1,600 contractors to implement improvements and whole-house retrofit projects with Home Performance with ENERGY STAR. Utilities and states across the country—including 45 local sponsors of Home Performance programs—use ENERGY STAR in their own energy efficiency programs and rely on it to reliably and affordably meet their energy needs.

Unpredictable energy costs and growing consumer and business demand make today’s investments in energy efficiency ever more vital to America’s energy security. It is important to emphasize that ENERGY STAR is a voluntary program that works with business and helps them with brand recognition. We believe that the wide range benefits of ENERGY STAR, realized across the entire U.S. economy, make it worthy of your support in FY2017 and FY2018.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

3M
A.O. Smith
Advanced Energy Economy
Alliance for Water Efficiency
Alliance to Save Energy
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
American Institute of Architects
ASHRAE
Brand Cool
Bright Power
Building Performance Institute
California Energy Commission
Ceres
Clean Water Action Connecticut
Copper Development Association
Cree
Daikin U.S. Corp.
Danfoss
DNV GL
E4TheFuture
EcoThermalFilters
Ecova
Efficiency First
Elevate Energy
Energy & Resource Solutions
Enterprise Community Partners
Environmental and Energy Study Institute
Eversource
Federal Performance Contracting Coalition
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FirstFuel
Goodman Manufacturing Company, L.P.
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative
Green Business Certification Inc.
GreenHome Institute
Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia
Home Performance Coalition
ICAST (International Center for Appropriate and Sustainable Technology)
Information Technology Industry Council
Ingersoll Rand
Institute for Market Transformation
International Facilities Management Association
Intel
Intertek
Johnson Controls, Inc.
Legrand
MPower Oregon LLC
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
National Association for State Community Services Programs
National Association of Energy Service Companies
National Association of State Energy Officials
National Grid
National Housing & Rehabilitation Association
National Housing Conference
National Housing Law Project
National Housing Trust
Natural Resources Defense Council
Nest
North American Insulation Manufacturers Association
ON Semiconductor
Owens Corning
passivhausMAINE
Philips Lighting
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association
Preservation of Affordable Housing, Inc.
Promise Energy, Inc.
Retail Industry Leaders Association
Robert Bosch LLC
Roof Coatings Manufacturers Association
Samsung Electronics America
Schneider Electric
Seattle City Light
Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance
The Stella Group, Ltd.
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future
Triple Bottom Line Fund
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UL
U.S. Green Building Council
Vermont Energy Investment Corporation

cc: Chairman and Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations