

April 7, 2017

The Honorable Rick Perry
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Re: Benefits of Energy Efficiency and Importance of U.S. Department of Energy Leadership

Dear Secretary Perry:

Energy efficiency is an integral part of our economy, security, and future. Energy efficiency gains made since 1973 have cut energy waste dramatically to fuel the U.S. economy more productively, and in so doing American businesses and consumers are saving nearly a \$1 trillion annually in avoided energy costs. And with these gains, good paying jobs have been created and sustained. Currently, 2.2 million workers across construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, and professional and business service industries are employed, in whole or in part, in the energy efficiency sector.

Because energy efficiency is a win-win-win in terms of energy savings, economic development, and environmental stewardship, it has enjoyed longstanding support from Republican and Democratic presidents alike. Your agency has been the primary implementer of the important national energy efficiency policies, programs, and investments that delivering tremendous value to the American people. We write to urge you continue the bipartisan tradition of driving energy efficiency gains across our economy through the essential energy efficiency programs conducted by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

We were encouraged by the strong support for energy efficiency you voiced during your confirmation hearings. Notwithstanding reports of cuts to the critical energy efficiency work underway through the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), we hope that you and the team you are installing will agree that EERE's work is critical to advancing DOE's mission "to ensure America's security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions."

The importance of DOE's leadership in research, technical assistance, and market integration efforts that have driven gains in energy efficiency cannot be overstated. Third-party evaluations have assessed one-third of EERE's research and development portfolio, and found that taxpayer

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investments of \$12 billion over a period of many years has already yielded an estimated net economic benefit to the U.S. of more than \$230 billion, with an overall annual return on investment of more than 20 percent.

Today, a typical American household saves about \$500 each year on its energy bills as a result of more efficient appliances supported by DOE's energy efficiency programs. The important and productive partnership between states and DOE relies on continued and expanded existing energy grant programs like those that have helped over seven million low-income families across the entire country reduce their energy bills. Model building energy codes adopted by states and local governments, with critical support from DOE, will have saved homeowners and businesses \$126 billion by 2040.

Furthermore, the collaboration between government and industry to advance energy efficiency has been remarkably successful, leading to technological breakthroughs and market innovations across the economy. For example, public-private collaboration has transformed the lighting industry. Today, the U.S. is at the center of the LED lighting revolution, which has enabled a staggering 94 percent reduction in cost since 2008. The lighting industry is one case study of many that illustrate this point.

Thank you for your consideration of these important issues. We look forward to working with you and your team in the coming years. We, the undersigned groups, stand ready to provide you and your team the support and information you need to carry out DOE's important work and meet to discuss benefits of energy efficiency programs at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Advanced Energy Economy
Alliance for Industrial Efficiency
Alliance to Save Energy
Ameresco
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
ASHRAE
Building Codes Assistance Project
Building Performance Institute
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
California Energy Commission
Ceres
Covestro LLC
Cree
Danfoss
The Dow Chemical Company
E4TheFuture

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Efficiency First
Energy & Resource Solutions
Environmental and Energy Study Institute
FirstFuel
Green Business Certification Inc.
Home Performance Coalition
Institute for Market Transformation
International District Energy Association
Johnson Controls
Legrand
National Association for State Community Services Programs
National Association of Energy Service Companies
National Association of State Energy Officials
Natural Resources Defense Council
North American Insulation Manufacturers Association
ON Semiconductor
Owens Corning
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association
Robert Bosch LLC
Schneider Electric
Seattle City Light
Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association
Siemens
U.S. Green Building Council
Vermont Energy Investment Corporation