



ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION

February 16, 2018

Statement Supporting Bipartisan Budget Agreement and Increased Appropriations for the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science

The Energy Sciences Coalition (ESC) thanks Congress for its efforts in reaching a bipartisan, two-year budget agreement that includes lifting the harmful sequestration-level budget cap for non-defense discretionary spending.

Especially given the additional resources, ESC again urges Congress to prioritize investment in the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science in the fiscal year (FY) 2018 appropriations omnibus bill and provide it \$5.7 billion, or 4 percent real growth above the FY 2017 enacted levels. This level of funding is consistent with ESC FY 2018 funding statements, which were delivered to Congress in April and December of 2017.

As the country's largest funder of the physical sciences and steward of the country's leading large-scale science infrastructure, the DOE Office of Science requires sustained and increased investment to continue support for: fundamental research essential to our economic growth; energy security and national security; training the next generation of American scientific and engineering talent; the construction of world-class scientific tools and facilities; and the network of DOE national laboratories. Currently, the DOE Office of Science is involved in major research efforts – such as machine learning, quantum information science, advanced accelerators, next-generation computing, data science and analysis, materials by design, plant and microbial genomics, energy storage, and fusion energy – that will have broad impacts for energy, national security, and economic competitiveness.

Sustained and robust federal investment in scientific research is essential to the U.S. remaining a global leader, especially as Europe and Asia aggressively increase their investments in scientific research. These investments spur economic growth, improve our global competitiveness, and enhance our national security.

ESC members thank Congress for its efforts and look forward to working together to ensure the DOE Office of Science is a priority in FY 2019.

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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.