ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION

Statement on Final Fiscal Year 2019 Appropriations for the Department of Energy Office of Science

July 16, 2018

The member organizations of the Energy Sciences Coalition (ESC) thank the leaders and members of both chambers' Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittees for their strong, bipartisan support for the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science in their fiscal year (FY) 2019 bills. Additionally, by including and passing these bills in the first package of FY19 appropriations legislation, Congress continues to demonstrate the critical role the DOE Office of Science plays in the U.S. scientific ecosystem – supporting both a leading-edge research program and the construction and operation of world-class scientific facilities.

As the House and Senate prepare for final negotiations on the FY19 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, ESC encourages the adoption of the Senate's top line mark of $6.65 billion for DOE Office of Science – a 6 percent increase from FY18 and consistent with ESC's FY19 recommendation. While ESC welcomes the bicameral backing for increased funding for basic research across almost all programs, Coalition members strongly recommend Congress provide robust funding for each of Office of Science's six core research programs, including Fusion Energy Sciences and Biological and Environmental Research. ESC also recommends that the final bill maintain a balanced portfolio of research, operations of facilities and new construction.

ESC is pleased to see both Subcommittees' bills would continue to provide funding for the Nanoscale Science Research Centers, Energy Frontier Research Centers and Energy Innovation Hubs; support ongoing research initiatives such as the Exascale Computing Project; and provide resources to launch new efforts in emerging research fields, including artificial intelligence, quantum information sciences and polymer-based materials for energy applications. In addition, ESC appreciates that significant funds would be allocated to upgrade existing, and construct new, facilities and science lab infrastructure. This necessary step will allow us to keep pace with our counterparts across Europe and Asia and maintain our global leadership in the physical sciences.

Providing $6.65 billion in FY19 will enable DOE Office of Science to sponsor a robust research portfolio across U.S. research universities and support our world-leading national laboratory network, which will help strengthen the U.S. economy, improve our global competitiveness, and enhance our energy security and national security.

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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.

ESC Membership

American Association for the Advancement of Science
American Association of Petroleum Geologists
American Astronomical Society
American Chemical Society
American Geophysical Union
American Geosciences Institute
American Institute of Physics
American Mathematical Society
American Physical Society
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
American Society for Engineering Education
American Society of Agronomy
American Society of Mechanical Engineers
American Society for Microbiology
American Society of Plant Biologists
Arizona State University
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Boston University
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Coalition for Academic Scientific Computation (CASC)
Consortium for Ocean Leadership
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Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
New York University
Northeastern University
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Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU)
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Pace University
Penn State University
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Purdue University
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