April 18, 2012

Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development  
Dirksen Senate Office Building, SD-184  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Lamar Alexander  
Ranking Republican  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development  
Dirksen Senate Office Building, SD-188  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Feinstein and Ranking Member Alexander:

As the Subcommittee on Energy & Water Development of the Senate Appropriations Committee approaches the April 24th markup and considers funding for the FY2013 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill, the undersigned organizations, companies and institutions urge support for continuing funding for Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy (ARPA-E) at or above the $275 million amount appropriated in the FY 2012 budget.

ARPA-E is conducting critical research necessary to ensure the nation’s future energy security. Modeled after the highly successful Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), ARPA-E supports “high-risk, high-reward” research that private industry does not sufficiently invest in, but which has the potential to drastically alter how we acquire energy in the future. ARPA-E is also helping to shape the next generation of energy researchers, attracting the nation’s best and brightest young minds to its opportunities. The enthusiasm for ARPA-E’s vision and nimble culture was evidenced in its Third Annual Innovation Summit convening over 2,500 attendees including entrepreneurs, state and federal government officials, state and federal agencies, and investors.

Stable and sustained funding is critical to ensure ARPA-E’s continued success in ensuring U.S. competitiveness in the energy field and our nation’s future national security.

Sincerely,

Advanced Technology Ventures  
A123 Systems, Inc.  
Alliance to Save Energy  
Alloy Ventures  
American Chemical Society  
Americans for Energy Leadership  
Amyris, Inc.  
Applied Materials, Inc.  
Arete Corporation  
Arizona State University  
American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)  
ARCH Venture Partners  
Aspen Aerogels, Inc.  
Association of American Universities  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities  
Baruch Future Ventures  
Battery Ventures  
BenFranklin Technology Partners of Southeastern PA  
Beringea  
Binghamton University  
Birch Tree Capital  
Bloom Energy  
Boston University  
Breakthrough Institute  
California Clean Energy Fund (CalCEF)  
California Institute of Technology  
Canaan Partners
Johns Hopkins University
Kent State University
Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers
Krell Institute
Levensohn Venture Partners
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Metal Oxygen Separation Technologies
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
Mohr Davidow Ventures
National Council for Science and the Environment
National Venture Capital Association
Nevada Institute for Renewable Energy Commercialization
New England Clean Energy Council
New Enterprise Associates
New Venture Partners LLC
NGEN Partners
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Northern Illinois University
Novomer Inc.
Oregon Built Environment & Sustainable Technologies Center (Oregon BEST)
OVP Venture Partners
Pellion Technologies
Penn State University
Phononic Devices
Physic Ventures, LP
Pilus Energy
Pinnacle Engines
Planar Energy
Portland State University
Prolog Ventures
Qnovo
Research Triangle Energy Consortium
Ridgewood Capital
RockPort Capital
RTI International
Scale Venture Partners
SCSUrmieli
Serious Materials
Sierra Angels
Sierra Club
Silicon Valley Bank
Solaya Energy
SPIRE CORP
Stanford University
Stony Brook University, SUNY
SunWind, LLC
Svaya Nanotechnologies
Syracuse University
TechNet
Technology Partners
Tesla Motors
Texas A&M University
Texas Tech University
The Ohio State University
The Optical Society
The University of Michigan
Third Way
Transphorm, Inc.
Tulane University
University at Buffalo/SUNY
University of Arizona
University of California
University of Delaware
University of Illinois
University of Kentucky
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts
University of Massachusetts at Amherst
University of Minnesota
University of New Mexico
University of Notre Dame
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Southern California
University of Tennessee
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin – Madison
US Venture Partners
V Squared Wind, Inc
Vanderbilt University
VantagePoint Ventures Partners
Velocity Venture Capital
Venrock
VENTUREINVESTORS LLC
Washington State University
Wellford Energy Group
Yale University
Zaeros, Inc.

Cc: Senators Reid, McConnell, Inouye and Cochran

Senator Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
Capitol Building, S-221
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
Capitol Building, S-230
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Daniel Inouye
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Capitol Building, S-128
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Thad Cochran
Ranking Republican
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Capitol Building, S-146A
Washington, DC 20510