

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 19th, 2012

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman
Energy and Water Development
Appropriations Subcommittee
House Appropriations Committee
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Visclosky
Ranking Member
Energy and Water Development
Appropriations Subcommittee
House Appropriations Committee
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Frelinghuysen and Ranking Member Visclosky:

As you begin work on the Fiscal Year 2013 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, we write to express our support for funding for the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's (EERE) efforts in biomass, solar and wind energy. Therefore, we request that you fund these programs at the President's requested level of \$270 million, \$310 million, and \$95 million, respectively.

We recognize the challenges of the nation's economy and we support efforts to reduce the deficit. However, we view investments in DOE's applied energy programs as a way to create jobs as well as address the nation's energy challenges. To do so, we must set priorities and make smart, strategic decisions about federal funding. Further, as the nation struggles to address its energy challenges, federal investment is critical to ensure advanced energy technology development can bridge the gap that so often interrupts the chain of development for industry investment and deployment. This weakens the U.S. position in a rapidly increasing global market for these investments. That is why we believe funding for EERE's biomass, solar and wind programs must be a priority in Fiscal Year 2013.

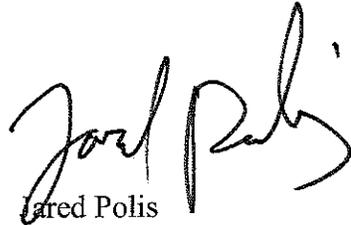
The budget supports the goal of ensuring that renewable electricity and fuels are available to Americans at affordable prices in the future. To do this, a diverse set of technologies supported by these EERE programs help to ensure that the U.S. has many options for meeting its energy goals. EERE's mission is to make sure that this happens by both developing these technologies through research and by removing barriers that prevent moving inventions and ideas into profitable businesses.

For these reasons, we urge you to make EERE's biomass, solar and wind programs one of your top priorities in Fiscal Year 2013. The leadership of this Committee is critical in supporting the research needed to create an energy industry that is essential for a prosperous and secure America. We appreciate the opportunity to share our message with you.

Sincerely,



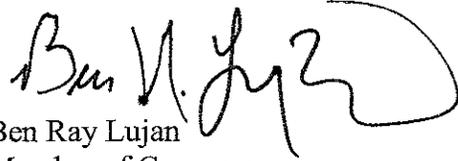
Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



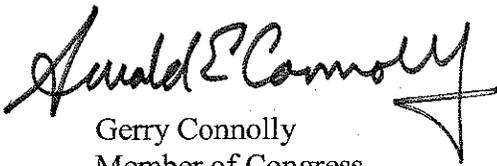
Jared Polis
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Lujan
Member of Congress



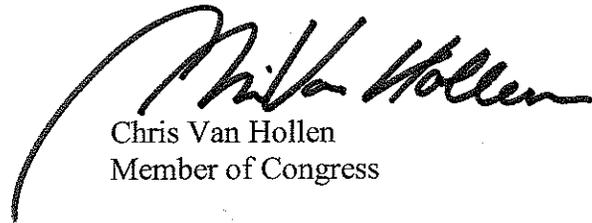
Gerry Connolly
Member of Congress



Donna Christensen
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Mazie Hirono
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