



April 22, 2019

The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
Chair, House Committee on Appropriations
Chair, House Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs
2365 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member, House Committee on Appropriations
1026 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Ranking Member, House Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs
2406 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Lowey and Ranking Members Granger and Rogers:

I am writing to convey the Business Council for Sustainable Energy's (BCSE) support for the funding of international clean energy programs and multi-lateral institutions in the FY2020 State and Foreign Operations (SFOPs) Appropriations Bill. The continued support of these programs will help ensure that American companies remain competitive in the global marketplace for clean energy technology solutions and services. These programs address policy and market issues that enable the deployment of the full suite of clean energy generation tools, including energy infrastructure modernization, energy efficiency and renewable energy.

The Council supports the appropriation of \$17 million for U.S. commitments to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The Council also supports the continued U.S. engagement in the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The Council acknowledges the specific FY2019 appropriations report language for Bilateral Economic Assistance accounts for renewable energy programs (\$179 million) and adaptation programs (\$177 million) and encourages the Committee to build on this foundation and incorporate it into legislative text for FY2020.

BCSE is a coalition of companies and trade associations from the energy efficiency, natural gas and renewable energy sectors, and includes independent electric power producers, investor-owned utilities, public power utilities, project developers, commercial end users and service providers. Founded in 1992, the Council advocates for policies that expand the use of commercially-available clean energy technologies, products and services. These industries together support over 3 million jobs spread across every state and congressional district in the United States and are united around the revitalization of the economy and the creation of a secure and reliable energy future in America.

As an accredited business observer to the UNFCCC for over twenty-five years, the Council can attest to the role this inter-governmental process has played in shaping markets in both developing and developed countries for existing clean energy technologies and in providing critical scientific assessment that assists both countries and companies alike in their planning.

Preserving U.S. financial contributions to these international programs and institutions, including bi-lateral clean energy programs, will increase the chance that countries deploy high quality American technologies. Making these financial contributions will protect and promote the business interests of American companies, including the defense of intellectual property rights, the creation of an open and transparent system of accounting, the ability to define and use market-based mechanisms, the ability to access financial mechanisms to fund projects overseas, and the ability to meet corporate sustainability goals. The U.S. government needs to provide leadership to the international community to ensure these outcomes.

We look forward to meeting with your staff to further discuss the Council's position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Jacobson".

Lisa Jacobson
President

cc: Members of the House Committee on Appropriations