



April 22, 2019

The Honorable Richard Shelby, Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
304 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham, Chairman  
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs  
290 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy, Vice-Chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations and  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on State Foreign Operations and Related Programs  
437 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Shelby and Graham, and Vice-Chairman and Ranking Member Leahy:

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 black ink that reads "Lisa Jacobson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lisa" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Jacobson".

Lisa Jacobson  
President

cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Appropriations