



April 28, 2022

Honorable Jeff Merkley
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
Room S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
Room S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Chellie Pingree
Chair
U.S. House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable David Joyce
Ranking Member
U.S. House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: ENERGY STAR Appropriation, FY 2023

Dear Chairman Merkley, Ranking Member Murkowski, Chair Pingree, and Ranking Member Joyce:

We the undersigned coalition of businesses, trade associations, environmental, and energy efficiency advocates, write in support of increasing the ENERGY STAR budget for FY 2023 to \$80 million. ENERGY STAR is well known for its ability to facilitate energy savings for consumers and to encourage innovation in residential construction and appliance manufacturing.

In 2019 alone, ENERGY STAR saved American consumers and businesses more than [\\$39 billion](#) in avoided energy costs. During the same period ENERGY STAR accounted for nearly [390 million metric tons](#) of emissions reductions – equivalent to roughly 5% of U.S. GHG emissions. Since 1992 the program has helped businesses and consumers save 5 trillion KWhs of electricity and avoid over \$450 billion in energy costs— and the program is also responsible for 4 billion metric tons of GHG reductions during the same period.

Notwithstanding the program's success, ENERGY STAR has seen its funding steadily decline from a high of nearly \$54 million a decade ago to \$39.4 million today. If we were to simply adjust for inflation, ENERGY STAR would have a budget of approximately \$65 million in today's dollars versus a decade ago. This steady decrease in funding priority has greatly restricted ENERGY STAR's ability to keep up with fast-changing markets and to expand the program's reach in sectors where large

untapped energy savings are achievable, including low-to-moderate income, disadvantaged, and tribal communities.

With broad bipartisan support and nationwide brand recognition above 90%, ENERGY STAR is among the most impactful energy and climate programs in the federal government. Our request to double the ENERGY STAR budget to \$80 million reflects the urgency to address climate change, and the need to prioritize energy efficiency solutions as consumers and businesses are faced with higher energy costs. We fully appreciate the competing interests during the budget and appropriation cycles, however we urge prioritization of energy efficiency— as “one of the fastest, most cost-effective ways to save money, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, create jobs, and meet growing energy demand.”¹

Thank you for your leadership on these important issues, and we look forward to working together to strengthen the ENERGY STAR program. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Vincent Barnes (vbarnes@ase.org) or Olivia Leos (oleos@ase.org) with the Alliance to Save Energy.

Sincerely,

A. O. Smith Corporation
Acuity Brands Lighting
Alliance to Save Energy
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
Association of Energy Engineers
Building Performance Association
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
California Energy Commission
Carrier Global Corporation
Cascade Associates
Combined Heat and Power Alliance
Copper Development Association
Covestro LLC
DuPont
E4TheFuture
Energy Efficiency Alliance of New Jersey
Environmental and Energy Study Institute
Federal Performance Contracting Coalition
Hannon Armstrong
Illuminating Engineering Society
Institute for Market Transformation
International Copper Association
Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance

¹ <https://www.epa.gov/statelocalenergy/local-energy-efficiency-benefits-and-opportunities#one>.

Knauf Insulation
Large Public Power Council
Lutron Electronics
Metrus Energy
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
National Association of Energy Service Companies
National Association of State Energy Officials
National Electrical Manufacturers Associations
Natural Resources Defense Council
North American Insulation Manufacturers Association
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association
Puget Sound Energy
Rocky Mountain Institute
Sacramento Municipal Utility District
Samsung Electronics America
Schneider Electric
Seattle City Light
Signify
Snohomish PUD
Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance
U.S. Green Building Council
Uplight
Window and Door Manufacturers Association