

November 21, 2019

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and
Water Development
Committee on Appropriations
U. S. Senate
Room S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Simpson
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and
Water Development
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Room S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Kaptur, Chairman Alexander, and Ranking Members Feinstein and Simpson:

We thank you for your consistent support of fusion energy funding through the House and Senate Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20).

While you move into conference deliberations, the undersigned members of the Fusion Industries Association (FIA) urge your support for the report language and funding provided in the Senate Energy and Water Development appropriations report (Senate Report 116-102) funding two public-private partnership programs for fusion energy at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as a part of robust funding for the whole Fusion Energy Sciences program.

We agree with the statement in the Senate report which states, *“The U.S. has an opportunity to seize global leadership in this transformational energy sector and attract global industry stakeholders by building on the Department’s capability and world class fusion science talent while partnering with private fusion companies.”*

The fusion industry is building upon the years of research and development that Congress has invested in the DOE’s Fusion Energy Science program. Now is the time for industry to work with the DOE to create a true Public-Private Partnership that will set the stage for a commercial fusion power industry. Our companies are ready to participate in these programs, but you should know that other countries are racing to

develop their own fusion programs. If the United States misses this opportunity, the industry could develop elsewhere.

In supporting the proposed two public-private partnerships, \$20 million for the Innovation Network for Fusion Energy (INFUSE) and \$20 million for the Fusion Public-Private Partnership Cost Share Program, Congress would enable the emerging fusion industry to leverage growing amounts of private investment capital. This would ensure the U.S. and DOE regains the lead in the global race to commercialize fusion power.

There was significant interest in the INFUSE program when DOE issued its first solicitation earlier this year. We expect the fusion cost-share program to experience the same level of interest when DOE proceeds with an application process.

Based upon previously established public-private partnership programs for research and technology development with federal agencies, we believe they represent a new approach in which the best of government and private industry can come together for a shared mission of ensuring the nation's energy security and commercial prosperity. While much work remains and many breakthroughs needed, the fusion industry stands ready to work with you to ensure success in these two programs.

Thank you for considering our request to support the Senate language supporting \$20 million in funding for each of two new public-private partnerships, while supporting a robust overall Fusion Energy Sciences program.

Please contact Andrew Holland, Executive Director of the Fusion Industry Association at aholland@FusionIndustryAssociation.org with any questions.

Sincerely,



Commonwealth Fusion Systems



CT Fusion



Compact Fusion Systems



Energy Matter Conversion
Corporation



General Fusion



Proton Scientific



Helicity Space



Renaissance Fusion



Horne Technologies



Tokamak Energy



HyperJet Fusion Corporation



Type One Energy



LPP Fusion



Zap Energy



MIFTI

cc: Chairman Richard Shelby;
Vice Chairman Pat Leahy;
Chairwoman Nita Lowey;
Ranking Member Kay Granger
Members of House & Senate Energy and Water Appropriation Subcommittees