



May 12, 2023

The Honorable Patty Murray
 Chair
 Senate Committee on Appropriations
 S-128, The Capitol
 Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kay Granger
 Chair
 House Committee on Appropriations
 H-307, The Capitol
 Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins
 Vice Chair
 Senate Committee on Appropriations
 413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
 Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
 Ranking Member
 House Committee on Appropriations
 1036 Longworth House Office Building
 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Murray, Vice Chair Collins, Chair Granger, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

On behalf of a diverse coalition of organizations dedicated to building a cleaner and more resilient aviation industry, we are writing to urge your committees to prioritize funding for key federal programs that are working to accelerate the development and deployment of sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) in the United States. Specifically, we urge you to support robust funding for the Department of Energy’s Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) and the Federal Aviation Administration’s NextGen Environmental Research programs.

Aviation is widely recognized as one of the hardest modes of transportation to decarbonize, and SAF, an alternative jet fuel that is cleaner than conventional petroleum fuel, will play a key role in reducing this sector’s greenhouse gas emissions. Continued federal investments in research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) are essential to lower costs, unlock new, cleaner ways of making these fuels, and to foster a competitive SAF market. With this foundation of support, the emerging SAF industry will also create jobs and provide new economic opportunities in rural communities across America.

Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) – \$323 million

Housed within the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, BETO is one of the most important RD&D programs working on bioenergy in the federal government. The work funded by this program has helped to make biofuels produced by a wide range of feedstocks more affordable and has helped achieve significant emissions reductions compared to traditional fuels. Grant funding from BETO has also been used by entities throughout the United States to make SAF production more efficient and create new markets for feedstocks such as agriculture residues, municipal solid waste, waste oils, carbon dioxide, and more.

FAA NextGen Environmental Research, Aircraft Technologies & Fuels – \$70.8 million

FAA’s NextGen Environmental Research programs are also essential to developing, scaling up, and deploying SAF and other aircraft technologies that will reduce aviation emissions. This account includes the CLEEN Program, which enables FAA to enter into cost-sharing agreements with companies to demonstrate sustainable aviation fuels and emissions- and noise-reduction aircraft technologies; and ASCENT, a center for excellence whose analytical work has helped the aviation industry tackle various obstacles to scaling SAF production.

As you begin crafting the Fiscal Year 2024 appropriations bills, we urge you to prioritize funding for these programs to help support the growing SAF market in the United States. These investments will foster innovation, create jobs, and make the United States a leader in this emerging industry.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Advanced Biofuels Association
Aerospace Industries Association
Air Company
Airbus
Airline Passenger Experience Association
Airlines for America
Algae Biomass Organization
Avfuel
Biotechnology Innovation Organization
The Boeing Company
Boom Supersonic
Cargo Airline Association
Delta Air Lines
Green Plains
Helicopter Association International
Infinium
International Air Transport Association
International Flight Services Association
JetBlue

LanzaJet
LanzaTech
National Air Carrier Association
National Air Transportation Association
National Association of State Aviation Officials
National Business Aviation Association
Port of Portland
Port of Seattle
Renewable Fuels Association
San Francisco International Airport
Southwest Airlines
SkyNRG
Third Way
Travelers United
Twelve
United Airlines
U.S. Travel Association
Velocys
Verijet Inc.
World Energy

CC: Sen. Dianne Feinstein, Chair, Senate Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
Sen. John Kennedy, Ranking Member, Senate Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
Rep. Chuck Fleischmann, Chair, House Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Ranking Member, House Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
Sen. Brian Schatz, Chair, Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, Ranking Member, Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
Rep. Tom Cole, Chair, House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
Rep. Mike Quigley, Ranking Member, House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
Members of the Senate Committee on Appropriations
Members of the House Committee on Appropriations