



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.”<sup>1</sup>

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](mailto:vbarnes@ase.org)) or Olivia Leos ([oleos@ase.org](mailto: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

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<sup>1</sup> <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