

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 27, 2007

Dear Colleague:

We are writing to ask for your support for the Administration's request of \$4.4 billion for the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Science Fiscal Year 2008.

There has been strong bipartisan support for past efforts to increase funding for the Office of Science. Last year, 70 senators signed a letter in support of the President's funding request for Fiscal Year 2007. Last month, nearly half the Senate signed a similar letter on short notice regarding funding in the recently-passed Joint Resolution for the remainder of the current fiscal year.


The Office of Science is the largest supporter of basic research in the physical sciences, providing over 40 percent of such funding, and is the main builder and operator of large-scale scientific facilities and instruments that are increasingly important to our scientific leadership. It is widely recognized by economists that investments in science and innovation are key to growing high-quality, good-paying jobs and a growing economy. In addition, the Office of Science is the main federal sponsor of basic research aimed at achieving the scientific breakthroughs necessary to meet our nation's growing needs for clean, abundant energy.

If you have any questions or would like to sign the attached letter, please contact Jonathan Epstein with Senator Bingaman's Office at 224-5521 or jonathan_epstein@bingaman.senate.gov, or Jack Wells with Senator Alexander's Office at 224-4944 or jack_wells@help.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Jeff Bingaman
U.S. Senator



Lamar Alexander
U.S. Senator

We are acutely aware of the tight constraints on the available budgetary resources, and commend you and the subcommittee for making the Office of Science a funding priority. We urge your continued support for the Office of Science so that we can maintain this critical investment in our nation's future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'L. Alexander', written over a horizontal line.

Lamar Alexander
