

June 6, 2002

The Honorable Spencer Abraham  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Forrestal Building - 7A-257  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As presidents from some of the nation's top research universities, we write to you about a current compelling need to provide substantial real budget growth for the DOE Office of Science, which, as you fortunately understand, is a vital but often underappreciated linchpin to the success of the nation's science enterprise across all agencies, including the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). Succinctly put—significant budget growth for the DOE Office of Science is now absolutely essential if we are to realize the full value of the Administration's widely praised, ongoing investment in the NIH and its more recent efforts on behalf of the NSF.

As you know, the DOE Office of Science not only is the largest source of Federal support for the physical sciences, but also plays a role—unique among Federal science agencies—as steward for construction and operation of large, one-of-a-kind, cutting-edge facilities without which biologists, chemists, physicists—and in fact researchers in virtually every science discipline—could not make the astonishing advances of the present, as well as those the nation's taxpayers so eagerly anticipate for the future. In this respect, progress in all Federal science agencies is dependent on the DOE Office of Science.

We wish to bring to your attention again—and to reinforce most vigorously—the thoughtful 14-page document entitled "Revitalizing Science in the Department of Energy," which was submitted directly to you under cover of a December 17, 2001 letter signed by 22 public and private university presidents, including a number of us who collaborate on today's letter. You will recall that this paper and the accompanying letter called for increases in funding for the Office of Science on the order of \$300 million each year for 5 years beginning in FY 2003. We appreciated your letter of February 8, 2002 responding to the December submission, including your encouragement to work closely with Dr. Raymond Orbach, who we are delighted has since been confirmed by the U.S. Senate as Director of the DOE Office of Science. It is in the spirit of that invitation from you to us—to help shape budget recommendations for fiscal years 2004 and beyond—that we send today's letter.

Another important recent impetus for today's letter is to say that we are pleased by the May 8, 2002 decision of the Secretary's Energy Advisory Board (SEAB), now under the leadership of our esteemed colleague Peter McPherson, to form immediately a subcommittee on the special role of science in your Department. We look forward to your announcement shortly of the individuals who will make up this new Task Force on the Future of Science Programs at the Department of Energy. These experts will have our full attention and

support as they work toward what has rich potential to be an important legacy for the entire country. We are confident that their work will be complementary to the ongoing deliberations of the Panel on Federal Investment in Science and Technology and its National Benefit, so ably chaired for the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) by Wayne Clough of the Georgia Institute of Technology.

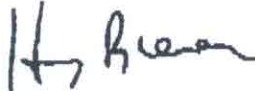
In summary, we respectfully request that you and the new SEAB Task Force commit to a strong investment in funding for the DOE Office of Science in the FY 2004 budget and beyond—as repeatedly recommended by university presidents, the scientific societies, the Energy Sciences Coalition, our Nobel Laureates, and others deeply dedicated to serving our nation through science. Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

With our warm regards,

Sincerely,



David Baltimore  
President  
California Institute of Technology



Henry S. Bienen  
President  
Northwestern University



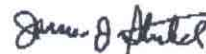
William E. Kirwan  
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Ohio State University



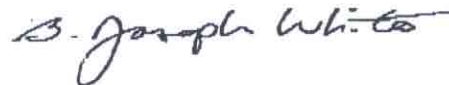
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Princeton University



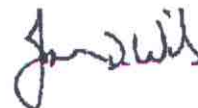
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John D. Wiley  
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Richard C. Levin  
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Yale University

cc: Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.  
John H. Marburger, III