

## ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION

November 17, 2003

The Honorable Spencer Abraham  
Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Energy Sciences Coalition thanks you for your continued support of the science programs in the Department of Energy, and to specifically applauds you for the successful roll-out of "Facilities for the Future of Science: A Twenty-Year Outlook." The twenty-year plan that the Department of Energy proposes brings together a strong understanding of the importance of the discoveries already made by scientists at these facilities, as well as trusting in future advances by scientists.

The Energy Sciences Coalition (ESC) approved a statement calling for significant increases in the Office of Science budget, much of which is needed to upgrade old facilities and build new ones. Our coalition of organizations representing scientists, engineers and mathematicians in universities, industry and national laboratories strongly believes that the programs and national user facilities run by the DOE Office of Science are vital to the nation's research investment.

The facilities plan the Department of Energy released gives the science community a well-balanced and easily understood roadmap of priorities. Our coalition especially commends Dr. Ray Orbach for his leadership at the Office of Science and his vision and foresight in developing the Twenty-Year Plan. The Plan will serve as a roadmap for the future of the Office of Science.

Mr. Secretary, your support for the Department's science programs has been key over the last three years. Again, we thank you for your dedication to the Office of Science, and look forward to working with you next year to ensure that the science programs at the Department of Energy remain well-funded and productive.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Bannan  
ESC Chairman

Cc: Dr. J. Marburger  
Director J. Bolten

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