

ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION

March 26, 2003

The Honorable David Hobson
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
2362 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Attn: Tracey LaTurner

Dear Chairman Hobson:

Enclosed please find a copy of the Energy Sciences Coalition's FY '04 Funding Statement with accompanying background information that we would like to submit to you as the Coalition's testimony for the record.

The Energy Sciences Coalition is a broad based coalition of organizations representing scientists, engineers and mathematicians in universities, industry, professional societies and national laboratories who are committed to supporting and advancing the scientific research programs of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), especially in the DOE Office of Science.

The ESC recognizes the critical and unique role that DOE science plays in advancing basic research in the United States and in bringing new technologies to the marketplace. The programs and national user facilities run by the DOE Office of Science are vital to the nation's research investment across all disciplines of sciences. The ESC therefore encourages the Administration and Congress to strengthen the nation's investment in DOE's science programs and facilities by providing a minimum of \$3.6 billion in funding for the Office of Science in FY '04.

The ESC also notes that a primary responsibility of DOE's Office of Science is to support large-scale and specialized user facilities located at both national laboratories and universities and to support large teams of scientists focused on national scientific priorities. This makes the DOE Office of Science unique among, and complimentary to, the scientific programs of other federal science agencies, including the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the Department of Defense.

ESC recognizes the difficult fiscal constraints that the nation is facing, but hopes that the Subcommittee will be able to invest in the nation's economic future and national security.

Thank you for your ongoing support for the Office of Science.

Sincerely,

Kathryn E. Bannan
Chairman
Energy Sciences Coalition

Cc: The Honorable Peter J. Visclosky
Ranking Member