

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 20, 2021

The Honorable John Yarmuth  
Chair  
House Committee on the Budget  
204-E Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro  
Chair  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Yarmuth and Chairwoman DeLauro:

As we approach the release of the President's full budget and earnest development of fiscal year (FY) 2022 funding legislation in Congress, we write to express urgent support for robust climate investments in this budget and appropriations cycle that, at a minimum, adhere to the \$14 billion in increased climate investments called for by President Biden.

Appropriations bills are pivotal to advancing just climate solutions that will help us reach our climate goals while reducing pollution and injustice in historically overburdened communities and spurring an equitable economic recovery. The more than 70 members of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition (SEEC) have demonstrated repeated support for these priorities over years of appropriations requests, and this year our requests for support are all the more important as we face a narrowing window of opportunity to act on climate change and respond to the dire need in our communities for a just economic recovery and the creation of family-sustaining jobs.

Furthermore, FY 2022 marks the end of sequestration and restrictive spending caps that have previously limited our ability to make needed investments in our communities and our country's future. This is a critically important moment to shift our mindset towards bold investments in the future that will spur innovation, create jobs, reduce pollution, and protect our communities from the worst impacts of climate change. It has now been more than two years since the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued its landmark report warning that we have only 12 years to take action to keep global warming to a maximum of 1.5 degrees Celsius. If we are going to make the changes we need to by 2030, we must make the investments *now*.

We urge development of a budget with a spending ceiling that allows for at least a \$14 billion increase in climate investments over FY 2021, and we urge appropriators to plan for an additional \$14 billion in allocations across critical climate programs in Energy and Water

Development; Commerce, Justice and Science; State and Foreign Operations; Interior and Environment; Agriculture and Rural Development, and more.

We further encourage report language directing climate-smart investing across programs not traditionally thought of as climate programs. For example, we would urge climate-smart investing of all money provided for development of HUD-assisted public housing so that it can better provide resilient, safe, net-zero building construction and redevelopment. The same principle can and should be applied to programs and investments across the federal government.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership on this important matter, and we look forward to working with you to advance these shared goals.

Sincerely,



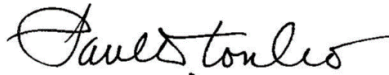
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SEEC Co-Chair



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