



May 12, 2023

The Honorable Patty Murray  
 Chair  
 Senate Committee on Appropriations  
 S-128, The Capitol  
 Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kay Granger  
 Chair  
 House Committee on Appropriations  
 H-307, The Capitol  
 Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins  
 Vice Chair  
 Senate Committee on Appropriations  
 413 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
 Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
 Ranking Member  
 House Committee on Appropriations  
 1036 Longworth House Office Building  
 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Murray, Vice Chair Collins, Chair Granger, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

On behalf of a diverse coalition of organizations dedicated to building a cleaner and more resilient aviation industry, we are writing to urge your committees to prioritize funding for key federal programs that are working to accelerate the development and deployment of sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) in the United States. Specifically, we urge you to support robust funding for the Department of Energy’s Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) and the Federal Aviation Administration’s NextGen Environmental Research programs.

Aviation is widely recognized as one of the hardest modes of transportation to decarbonize, and SAF, an alternative jet fuel that is cleaner than conventional petroleum fuel, will play a key role in reducing this sector’s greenhouse gas emissions. Continued federal investments in research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) are essential to lower costs, unlock new, cleaner ways of making these fuels, and to foster a competitive SAF market. With this foundation of support, the emerging SAF industry will also create jobs and provide new economic opportunities in rural communities across America.

**Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) – \$323 million**

Housed within the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, BETO is one of the most important RD&D programs working on bioenergy in the federal government. The work funded by this program has helped to make biofuels produced by a wide range of feedstocks more affordable and has helped achieve significant emissions reductions compared to traditional fuels. Grant funding from BETO has also been used by entities throughout the United States to make SAF production more efficient and create new markets for feedstocks such as agriculture residues, municipal solid waste, waste oils, carbon dioxide, and more.

**FAA NextGen Environmental Research, Aircraft Technologies & Fuels – \$70.8 million**

FAA’s NextGen Environmental Research programs are also essential to developing, scaling up, and deploying SAF and other aircraft technologies that will reduce aviation emissions. This account includes the CLEEN Program, which enables FAA to enter into cost-sharing agreements with companies to demonstrate sustainable aviation fuels and emissions- and noise-reduction aircraft technologies; and ASCENT, a center for excellence whose analytical work has helped the aviation industry tackle various obstacles to scaling SAF production.

As you begin crafting the Fiscal Year 2024 appropriations bills, we urge you to prioritize funding for these programs to help support the growing SAF market in the United States. These investments will foster innovation, create jobs, and make the United States a leader in this emerging industry.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Advanced Biofuels Association  
Aerospace Industries Association  
Air Company  
Airbus  
Airline Passenger Experience Association  
Airlines for America  
Algae Biomass Organization  
Avfuel  
Biotechnology Innovation Organization  
The Boeing Company  
Boom Supersonic  
Cargo Airline Association  
Delta Air Lines  
Green Plains  
Helicopter Association International  
Infinium  
International Air Transport Association  
International Flight Services Association  
JetBlue

LanzaJet  
LanzaTech  
National Air Carrier Association  
National Air Transportation Association  
National Association of State Aviation Officials  
National Business Aviation Association  
Port of Portland  
Port of Seattle  
Renewable Fuels Association  
San Francisco International Airport  
Southwest Airlines  
SkyNRG  
Third Way  
Travelers United  
Twelve  
United Airlines  
U.S. Travel Association  
Velocys  
Verijet Inc.  
World Energy

CC: Sen. Dianne Feinstein, Chair, Senate Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee  
Sen. John Kennedy, Ranking Member, Senate Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee  
Rep. Chuck Fleischmann, Chair, House Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee  
Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Ranking Member, House Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee  
Sen. Brian Schatz, Chair, Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee  
Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, Ranking Member, Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee  
Rep. Tom Cole, Chair, House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee  
Rep. Mike Quigley, Ranking Member, House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee  
Members of the Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Members of the House Committee on Appropriations