

ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION

Fiscal Year 2011 Funding Statement

Support Increased Funding for the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science

The Energy Sciences Coalition (ESC) strongly supports the Administration’s goal to double funding for the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Science between FY 2007 to FY 2017, a goal that is consistent with the bipartisan American COMPETES Act and the recommendations in the National Academies’ 2005 report “Rising Above the Gathering Storm.” To that end, the ESC supports funding of at least \$5.121 billion for the Office of Science in FY 2011 – an amount equal to the level requested by the Administration for FY 2011 and a 4.4 percent increase over FY 2010.

The ESC is aware of the significant fiscal constraints facing the Administration and Congress this year. Weighing the economic competitiveness and national security value of investments in Office of Science programs and facilities, however, we believe that funding for the Office of Science of at least the amount included in the budget request can easily be justified. The Office of Science is the nation’s primary sponsor of basic research in the physical sciences, and the facilities and research it supports are vital to ensuring our energy security and national competitiveness, meeting our environmental challenges, and producing new jobs and innovative technological breakthroughs that will fuel our economy.

Specifically, this funding will:

- Allow the Office of Science to maintain and strengthen DOE’s core research programs at both the DOE national laboratories and at universities;
- Support investigators at more than 300 academic institutions and from all DOE national laboratories;
- Enable support for 27,000 PhDs, postdoctoral associates, and graduate students in fiscal year 2011 – approximately 2,000 more than were supported in fiscal year 2010;
- Ensure maximum utilization of DOE research facilities by 26,000 researchers from universities, national laboratories, industry, and international partners; and
- Allow the Office of Science to develop and construct the next-generation facilities necessary to maintain U.S. preeminence in research and development in the physical and biological sciences, computing, and many other critical scientific fields.

The ESC therefore urges Congress to support the Administration’s FY 2011 budget request and invest at least \$5.121 billion in the DOE Office of Science.

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