



February 14, 2022

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Chairman, Senate Energy & Water Development Subcommittee
The Honorable John Kennedy, Ranking Member, Senate Energy & Water Development Subcommittee
The Honorable, Chuck Fleischman Chairman, House Energy & Water Appropriations Subcommittee
The Honorable Marcy Kaptur, Ranking Member, House Energy & Water Appropriations Subcommittee

Re: FY 2024 Funding for DOE Deployment of Alternative Fuels and Vehicles

Dear Chairman Feinstein, Ranking Member Kennedy, Chairman Kaptur, and Ranking Member Simpson:

On behalf of the nation's 75 *Clean Cities* coalitions and their 20,000 stakeholders in the clean transportation industry, Transportation Energy Partners (TEP) thanks you for your ongoing support of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Clean Cities alternative fuels deployment program. By advancing markets for alternative fuels and vehicles, the Clean Cities program is helping to reduce greenhouse gases and other harmful emissions, stabilize gasoline prices, decrease our reliance on foreign oil, and create American jobs.

As your respective subcommittees begin consideration of the FY 2024 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, we ask you to include \$75 million for the DOE Clean Cities Program. This funding will enable Clean Cities coalitions across the country to provide outreach and technical assistance that will help ensure effective implementation of the clean transportation investments in the new Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. Specifically, we ask that you include the following report language in the Vehicle Technologies section of the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Account:

The Committee directs the Department to continue to support the Clean Cities alternative fuels deployment program, which supports the nation's Clean Cities Coalitions' work to deliver lower air emissions and meet customer needs with vehicles powered by biofuels, electricity, hydrogen, natural gas, renewable natural gas, propane, and renewable propane. The nation's Clean Cities Coalitions are uniquely suited to assist state and local governments, school districts, and public and private sector fleets with successful implementation of the sustainable transportation programs and investments included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. Within available funds, the recommendation provides not less than \$75,000,000 for deployment through the Clean Cities program, including not less than \$20,000,000 in direct cooperative agreements with the Clean Cities Coalitions and not less than \$40,000,000 for competitive grants to support alternative fuel, infrastructure, new mobility, and vehicle deployment activities. When issuing competitive grants in support of these activities, the Department is encouraged to include at least one Clean Cities coalition partner. The Committee encourages the Department to ensure balance in the award of funds to achieve varied aims in fostering broader adoption of clean vehicles and installation of supporting infrastructure. The Committee further encourages the Department to prioritize projects that can contribute the greatest reductions in greenhouse gases and other harmful air pollutants. The Committee encourages the Department to explore ways in which the Clean Cities Program can leverage funding to provide greater support for clean fuels and vehicles in underserved communities so they can benefit from the emissions reductions and public health benefits.

Three quarters of the 20 million barrels of petroleum consumed by America each day is used for transportation. Transportation is the nation's largest source of greenhouse emissions, and the largest source of local air pollution and largest energy expense in many communities. Even though the U.S. is now the

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world's largest energy producer, we remain vulnerable to the actions of foreign governments that do not share our interests.

The DOE Clean Cities Program is the agency's most established initiative focused on the deployment of alternative fuels, vehicles, and infrastructure. Federal funding through the DOE has leveraged billions in private investment and unleashed American ingenuity and innovation to enable vehicles using electricity, natural gas, propane, biodiesel, ethanol, and hydrogen to take hold in the marketplace. Since 1993, the nation's Clean Cities coalitions and their 20,000 stakeholders have played a leading role in implementing local deployment programs and projects that have reduced petroleum consumption by 14.5 billion gallons.

According to DOE annual reports from 2006 through 2021, the Clean Cities program has leveraged \$434 million in program funding into an additional \$3.08 billion in public and private investment in alternative fuels deployment projects – that is over \$7.00 for every federal dollar invested. These funds have been used to deploy a diverse array of petroleum reducing fuels, vehicles and refueling stations that were based on specific state and local transportation needs. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, there are now well over 3 million alternative fuel vehicles on the road in the United States and 64,000 alternative fueling stations.

In addition to enhancing our energy security, the clean transportation industry is also critical to our economic growth and global competitiveness.

- There are now nearly 2.5 million plug-in electric vehicles on the road in the U.S. The global market for lithium-ion batteries will grow to \$194 billion by 2028 and annual revenue from the infrastructure charging sector is projected to grow to \$200 billion by 2031.
- Biodiesel has grown into a 2.8 billion gallon per year industry with 75 plants across the U.S. supporting more than 65,000 jobs and providing \$17 billion in economic activity.
- There are more than 200,000 propane-powered vehicles on America's roads, including a fleet of about 20,000 propane-powered school buses that transport 1.2 million children to school each day.
- The U.S. is the number one producer of natural gas in the world, and the industry provides 4.1 million American jobs. About 175,000 natural gas vehicles operate on America's roads today.
- Over the last five years, Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) use as a transportation fuel has increased dramatically. There are now 250 RNG facilities operating in the U.S. that have created more than 38,000 operational and construction jobs. Another 240 new plants are under development, and they will create an additional 35,000 new jobs.

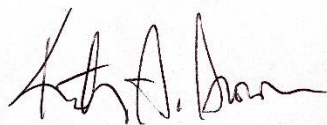
Again, we urge you to include \$75 million for the DOE Clean Cities Program in the FY 2024 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, which will ensure adequate funding for the deployment of alternative fuels and vehicles through the DOE Clean Cities program. Now is the time for Congress to maintain critical investment in the deployment of clean, domestically produced fuels and vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let us know if you have questions or want more information concerning this request.

Sincerely,



Alleyn Harned
President



Ken Brown
Executive Director

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