

August 20, 2020

The Honorable Dan Brouillette
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC

Re: Energy Storage Grand Challenge

Dear Secretary Brouillette:

We write in response to the Request for Information (RFI) published by the Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) regarding the Energy Storage Grand Challenge (ESGC). As members of Congress and strong supporters of efforts to accelerate the research, development, and deployment (RD&D) of advanced energy storage technologies, we are glad the Department is bolstering its efforts through this comprehensive, cross-cutting roadmap.

There is broad, bipartisan consensus that energy storage is the key to achieving a clean energy economy. Whether long-duration or mobile, storage will reshape our energy future—through the deployment of a suite of energy storage technologies, we will have the ability to integrate variable resources like wind and solar which will increase load balancing and avoid costly transmission buildouts; help diversify our transportation sector; and reduce our reliance on foreign energy.

The Grand Challenge will increase coordination across DOE on energy storage issues through focused, cross-cutting goals, and help expand our ability to leverage expertise and funding within the Department, at our National Labs, and with our partners in academia and the private sector. We applaud the Department's attention to RD&D of long-duration energy storage and the creation of a stable and reliable domestic supply chain for storage technologies and the materials required to build them. Innovation in both of these areas will be critical for the U.S. to maintain and strengthen its leadership in energy storage.

Congress remains deeply engaged on energy storage policy, and we will continue to seek out ways to reduce barriers to its deployment at grid-scale. We look forward to working with the Department as the final ESGC Roadmap is released, and recognize the promising research that has already come out of our National Labs and projects like ARPA-E's DAYS program. Effective and long-lasting energy storage technologies will reduce our emissions, increase the reliability, flexibility, and resiliency of our electric grid, and improve our national security. With

so many benefits and opportunities, advancing innovation in energy storage is something we can and must work on together.

Sincerely,

Angus S. King, Jr.
UNITED STATES SENATOR

Cory Gardner
UNITED STATES SENATOR

Martin Heinrich
UNITED STATES SENATOR

Richard Burr
UNITED STATES SENATOR

Debbie Stabenow
UNITED STATES SENATOR

Susan M. Collins
UNITED STATES SENATOR

Sheldon Whitehouse
UNITED STATES SENATOR

Lisa Murkowski
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Catherine Cortez Masto
UNITED STATES SENATOR

Martha McSally
UNITED STATES SENATOR