



ENVIRONMENTAL ENTREPRENEURS®

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Senator,

As the Senate considers the FY2016 National Defense Authorization Act, we, on behalf of the members of Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2), urge you to support the Department of Defense's energy security initiatives and oppose amendments and provisions designed to hinder the effectiveness of these programs. These energy security programs improve DOD's operational effectiveness, save lives and money. They also provide an important catalyst for the development of American clean energy technologies, improving our energy security, creating jobs and growing the economy.

DOD is the nation's single largest consumer of energy, making its mission of reducing energy use and diversifying energy supplies on installations and operations critically important to improving national security and reducing taxpayer expense. So far there has been significant progress to meeting this mission. According to the FY14 Annual Energy Management Report, DOD has reduced its energy intensity in facilities by 17.6%, increased the production and procurement of renewable energy to 12% and managed a 30% reduction in petroleum use by non-tactical vehicles since 2007.

Beyond the obvious national security and budgetary benefits, these initiatives are already stimulating innovation and investment by the private sector which have great benefits for the economy. With the military as a customer, these emerging technologies can reach commercialization and will translate to civilian applications more quickly, providing cost savings and benefits to American businesses and consumers while creating jobs and making the U.S. internationally competitive in these emerging technologies.

In 2012, E2 commissioned a study to examine the economic impacts on the private sector of just one part of DOD's energy security programs - the expansion of the military's biofuels programs. The report found some impressive results, showing that between \$9.6 billion and \$19.8 billion of economic activity could be generated and between 14,000-17,000 new jobs created by 2020 if DOD is allowed to meet its biofuel goals. Advanced biofuel companies already have leveraged \$3.4 billion of private capital to build new commercial facilities designed to meet the military's cost and volume targets. While this report looked at just one example, it is clear these programs, which are designed to meet national security objectives, are also helping to spur innovation and economic growth.

Yet this success is under threat by several proposed amendments to the FY16 NDAA which would undercut advanced biofuels procurement programs, prevent the implementation of Sec.

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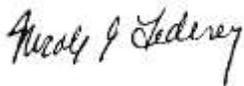
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526 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, or eliminate important renewable energy and alternative fuel requirements.

It is important for the military to invest in long-term solutions to the department's and our nation's energy security challenges. DOD's clean energy initiatives are reducing our nation's vulnerability to the fluctuating price and supply of oil and helping transform the U.S. energy economy. Now is the time to invest in and promote this progress. We once again urge you to support DOD's energy mission and oppose any amendments which seek to repeal DOD's energy security programs.

Sincerely,



Nicole Lederer  
Chair and Co-Founder



Bob Keefe  
Executive Director