

Support Letter for REAP in Build Back Better

October 18, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
(via email)

The Honorable Chuck Schumer, Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
(via email)

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Schumer:

As you work to advance the Build Back Better Act, we urge you to continue supporting the role that rural America's farmers, ranchers and businesses can play in decarbonizing the U.S. economy with energy efficiency and renewable energy investments offered through an expanded Rural Energy for America Program (REAP).

REAP provides competitive grants and loan guarantees supporting a range of clean energy technologies and projects that can serve every agricultural sector. As a cost-share program, REAP leverages private investment in rural America. The program is historically over-subscribed as much as 3 to 1; and interest will only continue to grow with greater attention on climate change going forward. REAP serves farmers, ranchers and rural small businesses in every state.

In 2016, USDA issued the report "Building Blocks for Climate Smart Agriculture and Forestry" which noted the strong pollution reduction that results from REAP investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy, including it as a top strategy for greenhouse gas reduction.

REAP benefits the entire nation by reducing greenhouse gas and other pollution, but also by improving rural economic development, small business growth, and agricultural resilience. REAP investments help create and retain jobs in the clean energy economy across rural America.

The Agriculture Committees strongly supported REAP with an investment of \$2.55 billion over ten years. With this level of funding REAP will vastly accelerate the adoption of energy efficiency and renewable energy across rural America, saving farmers, ranchers and rural small businesses on energy costs while creating clean energy jobs and growing business opportunities.

This commitment to REAP will help ensure the Build Back Better Act includes America's farmers, ranchers and rural small businesses and recognizes their potential to contribute to decarbonization efforts while substantially lowering energy costs.

Signed,

National and Regional Groups

25x'25 Alliance
ACORE
Advanced Biofuels Association
Agricultural Utilization Research Institute
Agriculture Energy Coalition
American Biogas Council

American Council for an Energy-Efficient
Economy
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
Center for Rural Affairs
Climate Land Leaders
Cold Climate Housing Research Center

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Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture
(CISA)
Distributed Wind Energy Association
Environmental and Energy Study Institute
Environmental Entrepreneurs
Environmental Law & Policy Center
Environmental Working Group
Geothermal Exchange Organization
Green America
League of Conservation Voters
Midwest Organic & Sustainable Education Service
Mid-Atlantic Solar & Storage Industries
Association
National Center for Appropriate Technology
National Cooperative Business Association
CLUSA International
National Farmers Union
National Milk Producers Federation
National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
National Wildlife Federation
Niagara Wind & Solar Inc
Pecos Wind Power
Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA)
Solar United Neighbors
Solutions from the Land
Union of Concerned Scientists
Windustry

State Groups

AFRD Georgia
Alabama Interfaith Power & Light
Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives
Clayton County Energy District
Clean Energy Economy Minnesota
Delaware Interfaith Power & Light
Dubuque County Energy District
eFormative Options, LLC
Geothermal Alliance of IL
Green Careers Dallas
Hoosier Environmental Council
Iowa Environmental Council
Iowa Solar Energy Trade Association
Johnson Clean Energy District, Iowa
Kentucky Poultry Federation
Long Beach Alliance for Clean Energy
Maine Farmland Trust
MassSolar
Missouri Coalition for the Environment
New England Farmers Union
North Carolina Pork Council
Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association

Ohio Environmental Council Action Fund
Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network
Oregon Organic Coalition
Oregon Tilth
RENEW Wisconsin
Southeast Alaska Conservation Council
Texas Poultry Federation
The Alaska Center
The People's Justice Council
TN Poultry Association
Utah Clean Energy
Wind Advisors Team
Winneshiek Energy District

Businesses and Cooperatives

A&R Solar
Advanced Renewable Technology, LLC
Advanced Solar Products
Aegis Renewable Energy
Aequion Inc.
Ag-Grid Energy, LLC
Ag Methane Advisors
AgriReNew JV
Aireko Energy Group (AEG)
Albrecht Wind Energy, LLC
All Good
Allterra Solar
Ambor Structures, Inc.
Amicus O&M Cooperative
Amicus Solar Cooperative
Amy's Kitchen
Arctic Solar Ventures Corporation
Ashland Food Co-op
Avid Solar, LLC
Awesome Ventures
Bay Baby Produce
Ben & Jerry's Homemade, Inc.
Bergey Windpower Co.
Big Tree Farms, Inc.
Bioenergy Devco
Bion Environmental Technologies, Inc.
Buffalo Renewables, Inc.
CalCom Energy
California Solar Electric Cooperative Corporation
Carolina Solar Services
Clean Energy Credit Union
Clif Bar & Company
Coherence Collaborative
CROPP Cooperative | Organic Valley
Danone North America
Dr. Bronner's

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Ducted Wind Turbines, Inc.
Ductor Americas, Inc
DVO, Inc.
Eagle Solar & Light
Entsorga Inc.
Envinity Inc
EnviTec Biogas USA
Eocycle America Corporation
Equiterra Regenerative Design Inc
Fetzer Vineyards
Frankie & Jo's
Gaia Herbs
Geoscape Solar
GloryBee
Good Company
Grace's Good Food, LLC
Green Insight, LLC
Green Retirement, Inc.
Greenfield Solar
GreenSpark Solar
Guayaki Yerba Mate
Happy Moose Juice, Inc.
Homefree, LLC
Hoss Consulting Inc.
Hummingbird Wholesale
Impact Power Solutions
Integrated Power
Land For Good
Legacy Vacation Resorts
LightWave Solar, LLC
Live Oak Bank
Lovey's Natural Foods & Cafe
M & M Farms
MAM Inc
Maple Hill Creamery, LLC
Martin Construction Resources, Martin Energy
Group
Metis Consulting Group
Morton Solar & Electric, LLC
Namaste Solar
Nature's Path Foods
Navitas Organics
Naya Natural Foods Inc
Neighboring Food Co-op Association
Newtrient, LLC

OLIPOP
OLITA
Omnidian, Inc.
OnSite Energy, Inc.
Oryana Community Cooperative
Perfect Supplements
Planet Found Energy Development, LLC
Positive Energy
QED Wind Power, LLC
RenewTest, LLC
ReVision Energy
RoundPeg Benefit, LLC
Seminole Financial Services
Shaw Solar
Simpleray
Siva Windturbine
Smithfield & Smithfield Foods, Inc.
Sol Power
Solar Design Associates
Solar Medix
Solar Power Pros Inc.
Solar States
Solarponics, Inc.
South Mountain Company, Inc.
Stonyfield Organic
StraightUp Solar
Sun Light & Power
Sun Valley Solar Solutions
SunBug Solar
Sundance Power Systems, Inc.
Sunsense Solar
Sustainable Futures Consulting
Thanksgiving Coffee Company
The Food Co-op
Traditional Medicinals
Vianova
Viresco AD
Weltec Biopower
Wholesum Family Farms
Wind Fisher
Wind Harvest International
Wolf & Associates
X-Caliber Rural Capital, LLC
XFlow Energy
Xia Analytics

cc: President Biden
Chair Debbie Stabenow, Senate Agriculture Committee
Chair David Scott, House Agriculture Committee