

Support for REAP Fiscal Year 2027 Appropriations

May 21, 2026

The Honorable Andy Harris, Chair
House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee

The Honorable John Hoeven, Chair
Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee

The Honorable Sanford Bishop, Jr.,
Ranking Member House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen, Ranking Member
Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee

Re: FY 2027 Appropriations Support for the **Rural Energy for America Program – REAP**

Dear Chair Hoeven and Ranking Member Shaheen:

We, the undersigned organizations, request that you support the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) with full mandatory funding and discretionary funding of \$20 million as you consider agriculture appropriations legislation for fiscal year 2027. This funding commitment will expand domestic energy production and savings in rural America. REAP and its cost-saving benefits are as critical as they have ever been.

REAP has a strong track record of success and bipartisan support. Since its inception, REAP has helped more than 30,000 farmers, ranchers, and rural small businesses to adopt renewable energy, cut energy costs, and boost rural economic development. The program is popular, widely supported in rural areas, and consistently over-subscribed. REAP increases access to lower-cost on-farm energy and updated more efficient equipment to build a strong rural energy economy that benefits farmers, rural small businesses, and America.

REAP opens new opportunities for more farmers and rural small businesses in every state and across agricultural sectors to implement modern energy technologies. With REAP, farms and rural small businesses cut costs and increase income through energy efficiency upgrades and investments in innovative renewable energy options. By lowering energy and input costs, REAP ultimately helps bring more affordable goods to the market.

For example, rural grocers use REAP to install energy efficient refrigeration and lighting that cuts costs, so they can continue to serve communities. Poultry and turkey growers, dairies, corn, soy, wheat farmers and beyond all deploy on farm power and energy efficiency improvements to cut input costs.

Since the 2014 Farm Bill, REAP has leveraged more than \$10 billion in private investment in rural economies, increasing rural economic development and growing new opportunities for rural small businesses and agricultural producers. Modernizing with new and innovative energy technologies helps to keep younger generations in farming and rural communities.

However, implementation of the program has slowed significantly. USDA should be directed to run the program efficiently and to swiftly address the vast backlog of grant and loan guarantee applications to help with rural energy affordability.

Please maintain mandatory funding and provide \$20 million in discretionary funding for REAP in Fiscal Year 2027 to continue bringing the substantial benefits of this program to farmers, ranchers, and rural small businesses from coast to coast.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

National & Regional Groups

25x'25 Alliance
Agriculture Energy Coalition
American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy
American Biogas Council
Appalachian Voices
Association for Farmers Rights Defense, AFRD
Beneficial Electrification League
Business Council for Sustainable Development
Center for Rural Affairs
Distributed Wind Energy Association
E2
Environmental and Energy Study Institute
Environmental Defense Fund
Environmental Law & Policy Center
Farm Aid
Geothermal Exchange Organization
Heat is Power Association
League of Conservation Voters
National Association of State Energy Officials
National Center for Appropriate Technology
National Farmers Union
National Milk Producers Federation
National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
National Wildlife Federation
Natural Resources Defense Council
Prairie Rivers Network
Rural Power Coalition
Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA)
Solar United Neighbors Action
Solutions from the Land
Union of Concerned Scientists

State & Local Groups

Arizona Solar Energy Industries Association (AriSEIA)
Cerro Gordo Clean Energy District
Clean Energy Districts of Iowa
Clean Energy Economy Minnesota

Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA)

Des Moines Energy District
Dubuque County Energy District
Georgia Poultry Federation
Geothermal Alliance of Illinois
Howard County Energy District
Iowa Faith & Climate Network
Johnson Clean Energy District
Kansas Rural Center
KY Poultry Federation
Linn Clean Energy District
Local First Arizona
Louisiana Food Policy Council
Mississippi Poultry Association
Mountain Association
Neighboring Food Co-op Association
New England Farmers Union
Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association
Polk Clean Energy District
RENEW Wisconsin
Tennessee Poultry Association
Utah Clean Energy
Western Colorado Alliance
Winneshiek Energy District
Wisconsin Farmers Union

Businesses & Cooperatives

A&R Solar
Advanced Renewable Technologies, LLC
Amicus Solar Cooperative
Berning Acres Inc
Buffalo Renewables Inc
Clean Energy Business Network
Coastal Enterprises, Inc.
Eocycle America Corporation
Farmers Market Coalition
Greenfield Solar
JOIA Food and Fiber Farm
Military Ridge Veterinary Service
Organic Planet, LLC
Prosperity Ag, LLC
RenewTest LLC
Siva Powers America Inc.
Solarponics
SolarShare Wisconsin Cooperative
Solential Energy Solutions, LLC
South Mountain Company
Sprout
Stonyfield Organic

Storke, LLC
Sundance Power Systems, Inc.
The Food Co-Op, Port Townsend
Vianova
Wind Harvest International
Windurance
X-Caliber Rural Capital
XFlow Energy

