



December 5, 2008

The Honorable Byron Dorgan
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Energy and Water Development
U.S. Senate
186 Dirksen SOB
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Pete Domenici
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Energy and Water Development
U.S. Senate
186 Dirksen SOB
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Dorgan and Domenici:

On behalf of NASULGC, A Public University Association, which represents 216 public research universities, land-grant institutions and state university systems, I write to respectfully request your strong support in the FY2009 appropriations conference negotiations for agencies and programs of great importance not only to public universities but to the nation. Outlined below are our specific requests for programs in your bill.

NASULGC recommends that the conference bill provide the House-recommended \$4.86 billion for the Department of Energy's Office of Science. This is \$140 million above the President's request and an increase of \$844 million over the FY2008 enacted level. This level will allow the Department to support the investments called for in the America COMPETES Act, and fund two dozen Energy Frontier Research Centers which will develop focused energy research to advance knowledge in the physical sciences, energy security, and national security.

I look forward to working with you through the remainder of the appropriations process to ensure that the nation maintains its ability to compete and innovate at a global level.

Sincerely,

Peter McPherson
President