The High Performance Building Coalition—a coalition of approximately 200 organizations that provides guidance and support to the High Performance Building Caucus of the U.S. House of Representatives—supports legislation and policies that protect life and property, promote innovative building technologies, enhance U.S. economic competitiveness, increase energy and water efficiency in the built-environment, advance sustainable and resilient communities, and support the development of private sector standards, codes and guidelines that address these concerns.

Buildings Are A Critical Part of America’s Infrastructure

Providing sufficient federal funds to invest in our nation’s aging building, transportation, energy, and water infrastructure is vital to the country, the economy, and the building industry. Recent studies have demonstrated that every $1 billion invested in nonresidential construction would add $3.4 billion to gross domestic product (GDP), add $1.1 billion to personal earnings, and create or sustain 28,500 jobs. We encourage Congress to recognize the critical role buildings play in our nation’s infrastructure by funding the following programs:

**Department of Energy**

The High Performance Building Coalition requests that the following programs within the Department of Energy be funded at the following levels:

- $2.31 billion for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)
  - $220.7 million for the Building Technologies Office (BTO), in particular the supporting the following programs:
    - Emerging Technologies (ET)
    - Residential Buildings Integration (RBI)
    - Commercial Building Integration (CBI)
    - Efficiency Standards, Building Codes, and Test Procedures
  - $27 million for the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP)
  - $55 million for the State Energy Program (SEP)
  - $248 million for the Weatherization Assistance Program
- $353 million for the Advanced Research Projects Agency–Energy (ARPA-E)
- $125 million for the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

**General Services Administration**

We support GSA’s mission to “deliver the best value in real estate, acquisition, and technology services to Government and the American people.” In particular, the High Performance Building Coalition requests that the following programs be funded at the following levels:

- $909.8 million for the Repairs and Alteration Program, including:
  - $70 million for building consolidation activities
Environmental Protection Agency
The High Performance Building Coalition would like to highlight our support for the following programs at EPA:

- $65.8 million for the Office of Government-wide Policy, including:
  - Office of Federal High Performance Green Buildings
  - Green Proving Ground program to test and prove the effectiveness of innovative energy-saving technologies in federal facilities

- $3 million for the WaterSense program. WaterSense is a voluntary product efficiency labeling program that identifies efficient and high-performing water-consuming products. Since 2006, this program has saved consumers more than $46.3 billion in water and energy bills. While benefitting from broad industry and bipartisan congressional support, this program has yet to be authorized. We urge Congress to include report language supporting the program.

- $50 million for the Energy Star Program. This voluntary program is a cost-effective, market-based tool that includes over 1,800 manufacturing partners across 70 different product categories. This resulted in more than 300 million qualified products being sold in 2015, generating savings of more than $34 billion. For every dollar Americans invested in energy efficiency through Energy Star, they reduced their energy bills by an average of $4.50. Since 1995, nearly 1.9 million Energy Star certified homes have been built and in 2016 alone, Energy Star certified homes saved families over $360 million in energy costs. For commercial buildings and industrial facilities, Energy Star's portfolio manager is an essential tool for managing energy and water consumption by allowing users to compare cost savings while tracking building performance.

- $33.5 million for the Indoor Air Quality Program

- $80 million for the Brownfields Program

- $2.857 billion for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs). EPA makes annual grants to state-administered revolving loan funds to finance the construction of water infrastructure. We support maintaining funding at the FY 2016 level.

- $63 million for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA). WIFIA provides low-interest federal loans for up to 49% of the costs for large ($20+ million) water infrastructure projects, including drinking water, wastewater, stormwater and water reuse projects.

The High Performance Building Coalition urges Congress to fund these important programs to maintain and increase the energy efficiency, safety, comfort, productivity, resiliency, and sustainability of buildings.

Should you have any questions about these priorities, please contact Joseph Eaves, Chair of the High Performance Building Coalition Policy Committee and Director of Government Relations at the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) at Joseph.Eaves@nema.org or 703-841-3221.