



Alternative Fuels & Chemicals Coalition

Advocating for Public Policies to Promote the Development & Production
of Alternative Fuels & Chemicals, with a Focus on Sustainable Aviation Fuels

Final: Consolidated Appropriations Act of FY2020 (Pub.L. 116-93)

KEY PROGRAM SUMMARY: INTERIOR & ENVIRONMENT (I&E)

Interior							
Program	FY 2016 Appropriation	FY 2017 Appropriation	FY 2018 Appropriation	FY 2019 Appropriation	President's FY 2020 Budget	AFCC's FY 2020 REQUEST	FINAL FY 2020 Appropriation
DOI Bureau of Indian Affairs, Access to Energy Resources and Job Development							
	\$113,804,510	\$120,050,595	\$123,565,389	\$174,616,164	\$0	Restore program to \$175 million	*\$0
DOI Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Guaranteed Loan Program							
	\$7,748,000	\$8,757,000	\$9,272,000	\$10,779,000	\$909,000	Restore program to \$10.8 million	**\$11,779,000
**The purpose of the Indian Guaranteed Loan Program is to encourage eligible borrowers to develop viable Indian businesses through conventional lender financing. The guarantee helps lenders reduce excessive risks on loans they make. That in turn helps borrowers secure conventional financing that might otherwise be unavailable. While the Access to Energy Resources and Job Development Program did not receive a FY2020 appropriation, guaranteed loan program borrowers can use the loans to carry out renewable energy, renewable chemical, biobased product, sustainable aviation fuel, and energy resources and job development projects that will increase the economic well-being of Tribes.							
DOI Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Ocean Energy Management							
	\$170,857,000	\$169,560,000	\$171,000,000	\$179,266,000	\$0	Restore program to \$172 million	\$191,511,000



Interior

Program	FY 2016 Appropriation	FY 2017 Appropriation	FY 2018 Appropriation	FY 2019 Appropriation	President's FY 2020 Budget	AFCC's FY 2020 REQUEST	FINAL FY 2020 Appropriation
DOI Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund							
	\$90,000,000	\$105,000,000	\$115,000,000	\$115,000,000	\$0	Restore Program to \$115 million	\$117,768,000

Environment

Program	FY 2016 Appropriation	FY 2017 Appropriation	FY 2018 Appropriation	FY 2019 Appropriation	President's FY 2020 Budget	AFCC's FY 2020 REQUEST	FINAL FY 2020 Appropriation
EPA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) Program							
	\$3,618,000	\$3,633,000	\$6,782,400	\$9,534,000	\$0	Restore program to \$10 million	\$0
EPA Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program							
	\$91,941,000	\$91,941,000	\$91,941,000	\$91,941,000	\$48,000,000	Restore program to \$91.9 million	\$91,941,000
EPA Federal Vehicle and Fuels Standards and Certification							
	\$85,613,600	\$93,070,000	\$90,650,100	\$94,240,000	\$77,826,000	Restore program to \$90.65 million	Appears to be included in another line item; the House-passed FY2020 appropriations bill provided \$117,241,000



Environment							
Program	FY 2016 Appropriation	FY 2017 Appropriation	FY 2018 Appropriation	FY 2019 Appropriation	President's FY 2020 Budget	AFCC's FY 2020 REQUEST	FINAL FY 2020 Appropriation
EPA Pollution Prevention Program							
	\$1,060,041,000	\$1,066,041,000	\$1,076,041,000	\$1,077,041,000	\$0	Restore program to \$1.1 billion	*\$1,075,907,000
*For grants, including associated program support costs, to States, federally recognized tribes, interstate Agencies, tribal consortia, and air pollution control agencies for multi-media or single media pollution prevention							
EPA STAR Research Grants							
	\$39,058,000	\$40,958,000	\$0	\$28,536,000	\$0	Restore program to \$40 million	**\$0
**The SBIR program was re-authorized in 2017 to provide grant funding through FY2022 from the 11 federal agencies participating in the program							

AFCC submitted the following comments to House and Senate professional staff and appropriators:

AFCC has grave concerns about EPA's policy direction and its devaluation of science and climate change.

AFCC STRONGLY RECOMMENDS the agency's reorganization plans must be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for approval. The agency is spending time, effort, and expense in renaming existing offices instead of working on environmental issues important to all aspects of public health and the environment. The most recent budget request, for fiscal year 2020, would cut research by 43 percent, eliminate all investments in fighting climate change and eliminate more than 37 longstanding programs with proven records at improving the environment.

AFCC STRONGLY OPPOSES these budget cuts and urges the administration to reinstate these programs, since cleaning the environment, both air and water, require serious investments, and provide the agency resources to meet its mission.

Congress and its appropriators have rejected these drastic cuts to EPA for three years in a row, and unknown to policy makers and the public, EPA has lost 8 percent of its workforce since fiscal year 2016, and several EPA offices have suffered even larger losses.



The Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance has lost 19 percent of its staff. Region 6 which provides services to several states including New Mexico, has lost 12 percent of its staff. AFCC urges the agency leadership to follow the direction of Congress by focusing on hiring and retaining qualified staff rather than allowing drastic losses.

The President's FY2020 Budget proposes steep cuts to EPA's Atmospheric Protection Program. The mandatory greenhouse reporting program covers thousands of industrial emitters and feeds the emissions inventory required under the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The budget would fund it at just \$14 million, compared with \$103 million in fiscal 2019. The 90 percent cut will eliminate a long list of climate change-related partnership programs. The plan would also cut the air and energy research program, which includes climate research by about two-thirds, from \$95 million fiscal 2019 to \$31.7 million.

AFCC STRONGLY RECOMMENDS that EPA reconsider its restructuring goals and immediately put a stop to eliminating programs which were authorized by Congress to meet the agency's mission to protect public health and the environment. Therefore, AFCC recommends that EPA develop a workforce plan which has a timeline to achieve the staffing levels provided for in the fiscal year 2019 enacted appropriations set by Congress.

All agency staff should be hired and provided appropriate travel budget at appropriate levels which would provide current and future staff to fully conduct their work and inspections as needed for safe operations and worker safety. And, as current EPA leadership considers future reorganizations and cuts to existing programs to states, tribes, and/or EPA staff, that the EPA leadership obtain feedback from these groups prior to any reorganization or cuts to any of these programs. Furthermore, EPA leadership should provide the needed training, work schedules and performance assessments which are consistent with signed agreements for both, the staff employees and union.

In addition, should the agency leadership consider other reorganization to programs and staff, that these be submitted for Congressional Appropriations Committee for approval and a federal register be submitted for public comments consideration.