



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

August 6, 2014

Mr. John Hofmeister, Chair
Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technical Advisory Committee
1302 Waugh Dr., #940
Houston, Texas 77019

Dear Chairman Hofmeister,

Thank you for your June 2014 letter to Energy Secretary Moniz and the accompanying *2013 Annual Report of the Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technical Advisory Committee (HTAC)*. The Department values the input of the Committee and appreciates this thorough and detailed report on the status of hydrogen and fuel cells.

We agree that it is a critical time to establish a U.S. leadership position in the development, commercialization, and manufacture of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies. We continue to monitor global developments through the International Partnership for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells in the Economy, an international partnership of seventeen countries and the European Commission, as well as through direct contact with our equivalent agencies in countries such as Germany and Japan. Our activities within the Department are paving the way for global competitiveness with more than 450 patents, 40 commercial technologies in the market, and 65 emerging technologies anticipated to be in the market in 3 to 5 years – all as a direct result of our funding and strategic efforts.

In terms of funding, we continue to support the President's "all of the above" energy strategy by maintaining a consistent and substantial budget for hydrogen and fuel cell technologies. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 budget request is approximately \$93 million, which is consistent with both FY2013 and FY2014 levels.

The Department values the advice and commitment of the Committee in its efforts to continue to improve the Department's programs and activities related to hydrogen and fuel cells. In response to your request for a formal review of HTAC, this is not necessary given the role of a federal advisory committee to provide advice to the Department. However, further engagement with the Committee may be solicited in the coming year to strengthen coordination with our senior leadership. In particular, Reuben Sarkar, the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Sustainable Transportation is anticipated to engage with the Committee more regularly.

Please extend my sincerest gratitude to the Committee members for their hard work and their valuable contributions to the Department and its mission.

Sincerely,

Dr. David T. Danielson

Assistant Secretary

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

