

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 15, 2025

The Honorable Chris Wright
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Wright:

We write to strongly condemn the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) unlawful cancellation of its grant agreement with the Alliance for Renewable Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems (ARCHES). California's regional hydrogen hub was projected to create hundreds of thousands of new jobs throughout the state, drive cutting-edge technological innovation, and help the United States maintain its domestic energy dominance. The DOE's recent action can only be described as a shameless attempt to weaponize your administration's government shutdown to sabotage the American clean energy industry. Your decision to illegally cancel the project must be reversed immediately.

After extensive negotiations and a rigorous review process, the State of California, through ARCHES, finalized a historic \$12.6 billion agreement with the DOE's Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations in July 2024. This contract obligated the federal government to contribute \$1.2 billion toward California's hydrogen hub, with private capital covering the remaining costs. This investment reflects the strategic importance of establishing a clean, reliable, and world-class domestic hydrogen network, enabling California to unlock an abundant source of energy and reduce rising energy costs, while improving the air that millions of our residents breathe.

The decision to terminate the DOE's agreement with ARCHES is not only in clear violation of its grant agreement, but profoundly shortsighted. Data centers and artificial intelligence are driving an aggressive demand for new sources of power, and countries that innovate to overcome these bottlenecks will lead the 21st-century economy. This administration cannot be pulling the plug on an American industry and crushing domestic innovation as China races ahead, pouring billions of dollars into its own energy sector.

This unlawful action is all the more alarming considering that ARCHES has demonstrated significant progress and remains a success story in the regional hydrogen hub program. Terminating the grant agreement will kneecap a major economic driver for the State of California—as ARCHES is projected to create over 200,000 jobs—while also harming local economies in Republican and Democratic states alike. The hub is already driving further demand to invest in and build new factories throughout the United States, with many ARCHES projects placing purchase orders or leveraging existing manufacturing facilities in states like Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, Texas, and others.

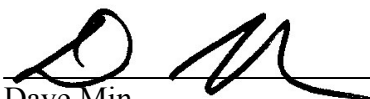
We demand that the administration reverse its decision to terminate the DOE's grant agreement with ARCHES, and we request responses to the following questions by no later than **October 29, 2025**:

1. What was the basis and legal justification for the DOE disregarding its finalized grant agreement with ARCHES?
2. Did the DOE attempt to communicate its decision to terminate the ARCHES grant agreement with the California hydrogen hub before the Office of Management and Budget's announcement on October 1, 2025?

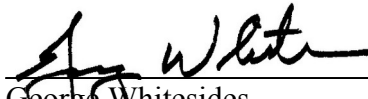
3. Did the DOE provide ARCHES with a meaningful opportunity to address concerns or arguments from the administration?
4. Did the DOE conduct an evaluation of the proposed economic impacts that cancelling its grant agreement with ARCHES would have on the State of California and the United States broadly, including projected job losses and disruptions to existing contracts and purchase orders?

Thank you. We look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,



Dave Min
Member of Congress



George Whitesides
Member of Congress



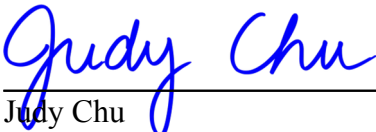
Mike Levin
Member of Congress



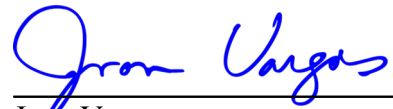
Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



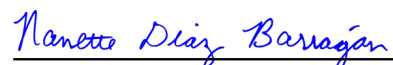
Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



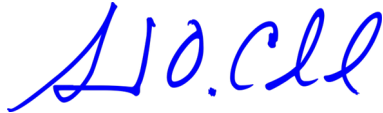
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



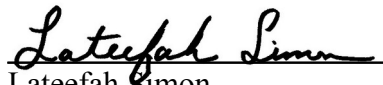
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



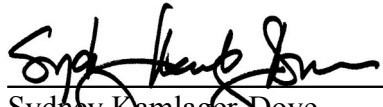
Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress



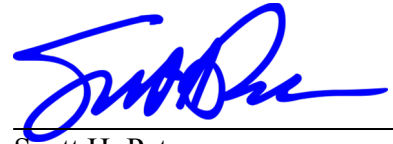
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress



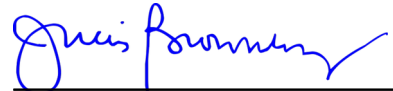
Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



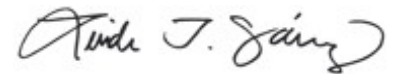
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



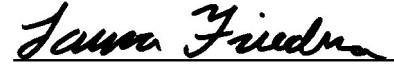
J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



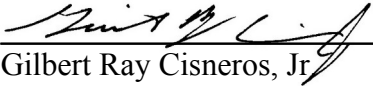
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



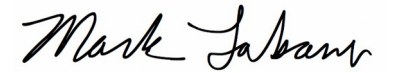
Josh Harder
Member of Congress



Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



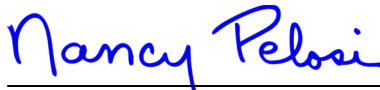
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



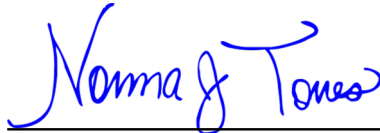
Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Nancy Pelosi
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress



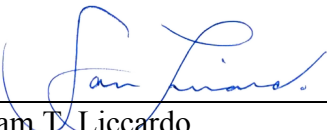
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



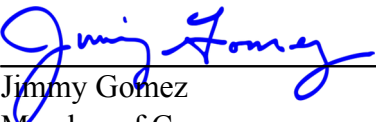
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



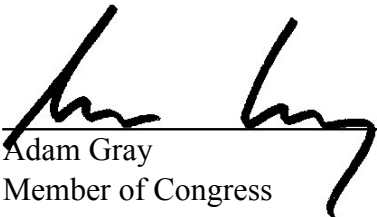
Sam T. Liccardo
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



Adam Gray
Member of Congress