

## Support funding for the Department of Energy's Building Technologies Office

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Building Technologies Office (BTO) develops, demonstrates, and accelerates the adoption of cost-effective technologies and techniques that enable high-performing, energy-efficient, and demand-flexible residential and commercial buildings. BTO works closely with the construction industry and others on research and development (R&D), validation of new building technologies and practices, market stimulation, and the development of building codes and equipment standards to improve efficiency in our most important structures—homes, hospitals, schools, and businesses—to name a few. BTO funding has been an important catalyst for economic growth, jobs, and smart construction and touches all the construction trades and occupations.

**BTO** is instrumental in the development of tomorrow's technologies. These technologies will be used by the roofing industry to build high performance buildings and homes, including high R-value insulation, envelope diagnostic technologies, and envelope retrofit strategies. Sustained investments that help de-risk and commercialize technologies also help ensure a robust employment market in the construction and manufacturing sectors. The roofing industry strives to keep pace with consumer demand for state-of-the-art performance that improves the bottom lines of homeowners and businesses, particularly through energy efficiency.

Energy efficiency is a low-cost way to save money, support job growth, reduce pollution, and improve the competitiveness of our businesses. Our homes, offices, schools, hospitals, restaurants, and stores consume a lot of energy and inefficient buildings mean wasted money. In fact, according to the Department of Energy, the U.S. spends over \$400 billion each year to power homes and commercial buildings, which consume 75% of all electricity used in America and 40% of the nation's total energy. And much of this energy is wasted—over 30% on average.

**Energy efficiency supports nearly 2.2 million jobs across the country.** As of December 2022, the energy-efficiency sector employed workers in 99.7% of U.S. counties. Around half of the nation's more than 123 million homes and 5.9 million commercial buildings were built before 1980 and prior to the development and adoption of the building energy codes we use today. Funding for the BTO is vital as we continue to innovate ways to improve our existing building stock and build the future of our cities and towns.

"The DOE Building Technologies Office is a critical partner to the U.S. building sector. The BTO experts and programs help fuel the development of new technologies by domestic manufacturers, train the skilled workers needed in today's construction industry, and drive savings to homeowners and businesses through lower energy bills. The polyisocyanurate industry and manufacturer members, such as Holcim, have a longstanding, collaborative relationship with the building and technology experts at DOE. Our relationship includes a joint research project that enabled the polyisocyanurate industry to commercialize a non-ozone depleting solution for its products, transforming the industry's future. This industry-wide partnership aligns closely with Holcim's drive to enhance sustainability for ourselves and the industries in which we operate."

Carl De Leon, Senior Vice President,
Technology, Holcim Building Envelope, Nashville, Tenn.

Request: Support funding for the Department of Energy's Building Technologies Office at the President's fiscal year 2024 request of \$348 million.