NHA urges Congress to fund the Department of Energy’s Water Power Technologies Office at $135 million for FY 2020.

MAKING THE CASE FOR ROBUST FEDERAL R&D INVESTMENTS IN HYDROPOWER, PUMPED STORAGE AND MARINE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

The DOE Water Power Technologies Office (WPTO) supports cutting-edge R&D efforts for innovative new technologies and operations that will generate cost-effective renewable electricity from across the water power sector and improve the security and reliability of the electric grid. Federal R&D support also stimulates private investment in the construction, manufacturing, engineering and environmental science sectors and strengthens the thousands of businesses that make up the U.S. supply chain. Supporting these industries expands an already sizable skilled U.S. workforce.

UNDERSTANDING THE DOE WATER POWER TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE

The WPTO’s R&D efforts focus on improving the performance, lowering the cost, and accelerating the deployment of innovative technologies that generate clean, renewable, sustainable, and cost-effective electricity from the nation’s hydropower, pumped storage, and marine energy resources.

For both the hydropower/pumped storage and marine energy programs, the WPTO is working to advance technology development; reduce the time and costs associated with siting, permitting and licensing projects; better quantify the potential magnitude, costs, and benefits of generation; and to identify and address barriers to deployment. In addition, the WPTO has released reports and maps that assess the nation’s future hydropower resources, along with estimates of the nation’s significant wave and current (tidal, river and ocean) resources.

NHA calls on Congress to direct funds across all water power technology sectors – hydropower, pumped storage, marine and hydrokinetic, and conduit power – at a funding level of $135 million for Fiscal Year 2020.