

THE SUSTAINABILITY REPORT | January 8th 2025

Keeping corporate leaders up to date on how policy decisions in DC are impacting sustainability efforts across the country.

Congress Introduces Funding Proposals for Energy and the Environment

This week, House and Senate appropriators announced a deal on funding for the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies (jurisdiction over EPA, Interior, and Forest Service) and the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies (jurisdiction over DOE, USACE, and some parts of DOD) spending bills.

Washington, DC Update

With Congress back in session after the holiday break, they are in full swing on must-pass bills. Funding bills must pass by January 30th, or be extended by then. Additionally, conversations on permitting reform continue to happen behind the scenes. Agriculture Chairman GT Thompson has floated a hearing on the Farm Bill this spring.

Overall, spending remained flat compared to the last spending bill and rejected many of the President's Budget's drastic cuts to programs. A few highlights:

- \$8.4 billion in new directed funding to the DOE Office of Science
- \$3.1 billion for energy efficiency and renewable energy programs
- Fully funds wildfire preparedness at \$4.25 billion

Want to Learn More?

- See the Senate Democrats' press release [here](#).
- See Subcommittee Chair Fleischmann's floor remarks on the Energy & Water bill [here](#).

Engagement Opportunities

BUILD Grant Applications

- DOT is accepting [Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development \(BUILD\)](#) grant applications through February 24.

Better Building and Better Plants

Summit

- Department of Energy is hosting its [2026 Better Buildings & Better Plants Summit](#) on May 11-13 in Arlington, VA.

Better Building and Better Plants

Summit

- EPA is accepting funding for [FY26 Brownfields Multipurpose Assessment and Cleanup Grants](#) to allow more vacant and abandoned properties to be turned into community assets. Applications are due by January 28.

