

United States Senate

May 4, 2022

The Honorable Brian Schatz
Chairman
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
and Urban Development, and Related
Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
and Urban Development, and Related
Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 2051

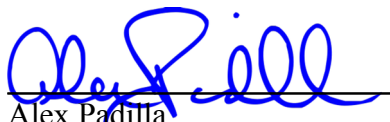
Dear Chairman Schatz and Ranking Member Collins:

As you develop the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill, we write to request robust funding be provided to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to support energy efficiency, energy resiliency, and renewable energy at our nation's airports.

While some airports are already using renewable energy systems to enhance the energy efficiency of their power sources, our nation's airports still have incredible opportunities to lower emissions and improve energy resiliency by further investing in renewable energy sources and energy storage solutions. For example, commercial solar panels are bigger and more efficient than residential ones and can generate substantially more power without presenting a threat to aviation operations. Furthermore, battery storage and microgrids would allow energy to be stored and used later during peak demand, when it is most needed. In the event of a power disruption or outage as a result of a natural disaster or other emergency, deploying solar generation coupled with battery storage would allow airports to power essential facilities using renewable resources instead of generators, which often run on fossil fuels. Providing new dedicated funding and funding existing programs to meet current demand to support these activities would help kickstart existing interest in reducing carbon footprint and improving the energy resiliency at airports.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to continuing to work with you to address the infrastructure needs of our nation's airports and reduce emissions from the transportation sector.

Sincerely,



Alex Padilla
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



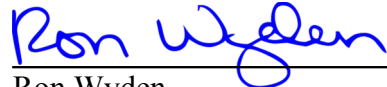
Martin Heinrich
United States Senator



Raphael G. Warnock
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator