September 7, 2006

Honorable Ted Stevens  
Chair, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
United States Senate  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-0201

Honorable Daniel K. Inouye  
Ranking Minority Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
United States Senate  
722 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-1102

Dear Chairman Stevens and Ranking Member Inouye:

The listed organizations endorse the nomination of Dr. Sharon L. Hays to be Associate Director for Science in the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

Dr. Hays is well qualified for this position based on her experience and her understanding of the key scientific issues facing our country. Her experience as Chief of Staff of OSTP, deputy to the OSTP Associate Director for Technology, Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Research of the House Science Committee, and AAAS Science Fellow in the office of Rep. Vern Ehlers, as well as her work on the Science Committee’s report, “Unlocking Our Future: Toward a New National Science Policy,” should serve her well as OSTP Associate Director for Science. As a scientist with an extensive public service background, Dr. Hays is well versed in how America’s competitiveness is directly linked to federal support for scientific research and the discoveries fostered by this research. She is also fully aware of the necessity of having a well-educated and skilled technical workforce.

Maintaining economic prosperity will require a steady stream of technological discoveries that transcend into new products and processes. The White House, federal agencies, and the Congress play a critical role in providing the resources and policies that support the environment in which these discoveries are made. Sharon Hays understands the importance of this creative process to sustaining innovation and, thereby, our nation’s competitiveness.

We strongly recommend Dr. Hays for OSTP Associate Director for Science.

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