



HOUSE LAWMAKERS SPUR CLEAN ENERGY DIRECTION

WASHINGTON, JUNE 8, 2018 -- House lawmakers approved a sweeping set of resources and targeted program direction and reforms to the Department of Energy that would spur advanced nuclear, carbon capture, energy storage and other clean energy technologies.

“Lawmakers are making tremendous strides toward advancing our most important clean and reliable power breakthroughs,” ClearPath Action Executive Director Rich Powell said. “We expect this spending bill will complement the Senate’s in recognizing that while steady and sufficient funding is essential, providing important direction and reforms to the DOE to make sure that dollars are well spent is equally vital to spurring energy innovation.”

The bill:

- Builds upon direction in the FY18 spending deal for DOE to map out a [“moonshot” goal](#) for demonstrating advanced nuclear technologies with the private sector by the mid to late 2020s
- Directs the energy secretary to launch a department-wide energy storage effort with aggressive performance targets, utilizing the strengths of the agency’s electricity, renewable and science offices to drive down costs and improve performance of grid-scale technologies

- Prioritizes R&D of new advanced reactor designs for advanced small modular nuclear reactor R&D, which helps innovative pending designs -- such as NuScale Power's -- get up and running on schedule; and for advanced reactor technologies that could help more advanced technologies being worked on by Terrapower, X-energy and others
- Supports a versatile test reactor design, building off the initial resources provided in the recently-enacted FY18 omnibus for a national lab facility critical to the development of advanced nuclear by private developers
- Provides for testing of high assay low-enriched uranium (HA-LEU), which will be needed to fuel many advanced nuclear concepts
- Supports scale-up of carbon capture efforts, including new solicitations for advanced fossil fuel system engineering, and specifically projects that generate emissions suitable for utilization or storage
- Advances and fully funds the ongoing five-year R&D effort led by DOE's Energy Innovation Hubs - namely the Joint Center for Energy Storage Research (developing extraordinary new batteries) and the Joint Center for Artificial Photosynthesis (using sunlight to turn water into clean hydrogen fuel)

The FY19 Energy and Water spending bill boosts nuclear research funding and overall science funding, while also making a point of supporting not just early research but the full range of efforts that help the most promising next-generation of clean energy technologies towards deployment and commercialization.

It also preserves DOE advanced energy loan guarantees and the department's highly successful Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) program.

About ClearPath Action

Founded by businessman Jay Faison, ClearPath Action's mission is to accelerate conservative clean energy solutions. To advance the mission, ClearPath Action develops cutting-edge policy and messaging and works with policymakers and industry.