



March 15, 2023



CENTER FOR CLIMATE AND ENERGY SOLUTIONS



North America's Building Trades Unions



The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Diane Feinstein
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Kennedy
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairs Fleischmann and Feinstein and Ranking Members Kaptur and Kennedy:

As you begin work on the FY2024 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, we encourage you to include robust funding for the Department of Energy's advanced nuclear energy programs. In particular, we urge you to include the highest possible funding levels for the Advanced Reactor Demonstration Program (ARDP), which seeks to demonstrate multiple next-generation nuclear reactor designs, and the Advanced Nuclear Fuel Availability Program, which would provide the high-assay low-enriched uranium (HALEU) required by most of these designs.

The Advanced Nuclear Fuel Availability Program is especially critical in light of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Russia controls more than 40 percent of global uranium conversion and enrichment capacity, and a Russia-controlled company is the only commercial source of HALEU globally. With Russia no longer a viable source of nuclear fuel, the U.S. urgently needs to develop domestic capacity to supply a new generation of advanced reactors in the U.S. and abroad.

Authorized in the bipartisan Energy Act of 2020, ARDP is the primary federal program supporting the commercialization of U.S. advanced reactor technologies. Advanced reactors use innovative new designs, fuels, and coolants to provide clean, firm electricity and industrial heat. In addition to providing clean and reliable energy in the U.S., advanced reactors are exportable and can help U.S. allies become more independent of Russian natural gas. Several European countries are already exploring advanced nuclear projects with American developers.

American advanced reactor commercialization and export, as well as a reliable supply of HALEU fuel, are critical to meeting U.S. climate, clean energy, and national security goals. To achieve this, both the ARDP and HALEU program must be executed successfully, but program success is contingent on federal funding.

We ask that your FY24 Appropriations bill include the highest possible funding for these important and effective programs. In light of the urgency created by Russian actions in Ukraine, we also ask that you consider including significant additional funding for HALEU-related programs in any future Ukraine Supplemental funding bills.

Sincerely,

American Nuclear Society
ARC Clean Technology
BPC Action
BWXT Technologies, Inc.

March 15, 2023

Center for Climate and Energy Solutions
Centrus Energy Corp.
Clean Air Task Force
ClearPath Action
CORE POWER (US)
Energy Northwest
Framatome Inc.
Generation Atomic
Good Energy Collective
Holtec International
International Brotherhood of Boilermakers
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Kairos Power LLC
Lightbridge Corporation
North America's Building Trades Unions
The Nature Conservancy
Nuclear Innovation Alliance
Oklo
Orano USA
Rainey Center Freedom Project
TerraPower
Third Way
Urenco USA
U.S. Chamber of Commerce Global Energy Institute
U.S. Nuclear Industry Council
United Steelworkers
Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium
Westinghouse Electric Company
X-Energy, LLC

Cc:

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Speaker of the House
The Honorable Hakeem Jefferies, House Minority Leader
The Honorable Chuck Schumer, Senate Majority Leader
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader
The Honorable Jennifer Granholm, Secretary of Energy
The Honorable Shalanda Young, Director, White House Office of Management and Budget