



Accelerating conservative clean energy solutions

October 24, 2017

Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson
U.S. House of Representatives
2468 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Ryan Costello
U.S. House of Representatives
325 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Marcy Kaptur
U.S. House of Representatives
2186 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Mia Love
U.S. House of Representatives
217 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Johnson, Costello, Kaptur, and Love:

On behalf of ClearPath Action Fund, a 501(c)4 organization working to accelerate conservative clean energy solutions, I write to support the *ARPA-E Reauthorization Act of 2017 (H.R.3681)*, bipartisan legislation aimed at bolstering public-private energy innovation efforts facilitated by the Department of Energy's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E). Investments in early stage research and development (R&D) is essential to catalyzing the next generation of advanced technologies needed to make a cleaner, more reliable, and more affordable electrical grid, while enhancing the U.S. global technology innovation leadership.

Since APRA-E was first authorized in 2007 by *The America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science (COMPETES) Act of 2007 Act (P.L. 110-69)*, the agency has demonstrated immense success in advancing high-risk, high-reward technology solutions to complicated energy and environmental challenges facing our nation. It is one of the Department of Energy's most successful R&D initiatives, making

impactful investments in technologies deemed too risk for the private sector to pursue unilaterally.

ARPA-E successes include breakthrough advancements in energy storage, alternative fuels and energy efficiency technologies in recent years. As a result, promising projects have subsequently attracted over \$1.25 billion in private sector funding, making once nascent technologies a reality. It serves as a model for government-facilitated research and development, continuously re-evaluating ongoing efforts in order to allocate scant resources to promising work streams and discontinuing underperforming projects.

Accordingly, this bipartisan legislation wisely reauthorizes this impactful agency through 2022, provides Congress more flexibility to increase investments in its' programs, and implements important reforms that protects sensitive proprietary business information collected by the agency over the course of its work. These policies will facilitate the next wave of public-private breakthrough innovation efforts, including an upcoming program focused on supporting R&D on advanced nuclear reactor technologies that enable safe, secure, and flexible energy production with dramatically lower capital and operating costs. Efforts like these are essential to regaining American energy innovation leadership.

This ARPA-E Reauthorization Act of 2017 recognizes the immense challenges facing the 21st century American electric grid and prioritizes public-private energy innovation efforts that help bring transformational energy technologies to the market. We applaud your leadership in this area and thank you for your efforts to ensure a cleaner, more affordable and more secure energy future for the United States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rich Powell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rich Powell
Executive Director

ClearPath Action Fund for Conservative Clean Energy, Inc.
611 Maryland Ave NE
Washington, DC 20002