AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3607
OFFERED BY MR. LIPINSKI OF ILLINOIS

Page 40, after line 2, insert the following:

SEC. 14. CLIMATE SOLUTIONS CHALLENGES.

(a) Authority.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall establish a program to be known as “Fossil Energy Climate Solutions Challenges” for carrying out prize competitions described under subsection (d) pursuant to section 24 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719) relating to the climate and energy.

(b) Prize Committees.—

(1) In general.—The Secretary shall assemble a prize committee that shall define the scope and detail of, and provide the requirements for, the prize competitions under this section. Such committee may be composed of—

(A) members from the Office of Fossil Energy, Advanced Research Projects Energy, Office of Technology Transitions, or other offices that most appropriately corresponds with the topic of the prize competition; and
(B) representatives of any other entities, as determined appropriate by the Secretary, including other Federal agencies, State and local governments, and the private sector.

(2) DEFINING TOPIC AREAS.—The prize committee may modify and define the scope of the prize areas described under subsection (c), so long as such modification is in accordance with descriptions in such subsection.

(3) INCENTIVE FOR PRIZE COMPETITION.—The prize committee for each prize competition shall determine the incentive for the prize competition. In determining the incentive, the committee shall consider—

(A) a cash prize;

(B) access to Government facilities, such as through a lab-embedded entrepreneurship program of the Department of Energy, a cooperative research and development agreement, or other method;

(C) advance market commitments for technologies of use or promise to the Federal Government; and

(D) any other incentive provided for by law.
(4) JUDGING CRITERIA.—The prize committee for each prize competition shall establish judging criteria for the competition that shall include, at a minimum—

(A) potential for the solution to become a commercial product or service or advance knowledge to further the public good;

(B) consideration of how likely the solution is to lead to subsequent research, development, deployment, or manufacturing in the United States;

(C) the degree to which the solution will lower the climate footprint of the United States; and

(D) the degree to which the solution will lower the global climate footprint.

(5) CONSIDERATION.—In carrying out this section, the committee shall take into consideration the best practices provided for in the challenges and prizes toolkit made publicly available on December 15, 2016, by the General Services Administration.

(c) PRIZE COMPETITIONS.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall offer prize awards for any of the following:
(1) Solutions to capture carbon emissions from sources that would otherwise be emitted to the atmosphere.

(2) Solutions to convert carbon emissions to a beneficial use that does not result in near-term re-release into the atmosphere, unless such re-release offsets the emission of additional carbon into the atmosphere, such that the net effect of the solution is to reduce the overall amount of carbon being emitted to the atmosphere.

(3) Other solutions that have potential to achieve reduction in greenhouse gas emissions associated with fossil-based energy production.

(d) ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS.—In addition to such sums as may be appropriated or otherwise made available to the Secretary to award prizes under this section, the Secretary may accept funds from other Federal agencies, private sector entities, and State and local governments to award prizes under this section. The Secretary may not give any special consideration relating to the selection of awards under the prize competition to any private sector entity or individual in return for a donation to the Secretary or prize committee.

(e) ELIGIBILITY.—Notwithstanding section 24(g)(3) of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of
1 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719(g)(3)), a group may be eligible for
2 an award under this section if one or more members of
3 such group is a citizen or permanent resident of the
4 United States.
5  
6 (f) COMPLETION OF PRIZE COMPETITIONS.—The
7 prize competitions carried out under this section shall be
8 completed not later than the date that is 5 years after
9 the program is established under subsection (a).
10  
11 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
12 authorized to be appropriated $15,000,000 to carry out
13 this section, to remain available until expended.