

House Lawmakers Give Swift Approval To Crucial Nuclear Incentive

Senate now must act to provide needed lifeline for the expansion of the sector

WASHINGTON, June 20, 2017 -- House lawmakers swiftly and broadly backed a bill that improves the effectiveness of the tax incentive needed to advance new nuclear power production, one of our nation's most potent and reliable clean energy sources.

Lawmakers by voice vote approved a bill from Reps. Tom Rice (R-S.C.) and Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.) modifying the 45(j) production tax credit to allow more time for the nation's four new reactors under construction to utilize the credit, and to allow transferability of the credit to other partners of the utilities.

"This effort is vital to the expansion of our nuclear fleet," ClearPath Executive Director Rich Powell said.

It may also affect facilities that would use other advanced nuclear technologies, such as small modular reactors being designed by NuScale Power.

"NuScale's technology is one of the biggest opportunities for nuclear over the next decade and these reforms to 45(j) would significantly bolster their ability to demonstrate the first American small modular reactor," ClearPath Action Policy Associate Spencer Nelson said.

H.R. 1551 changes current law by removing the 2021 deadline for the new reactors to be placed in service, while providing public-private partnerships more flexibility to utilize the credit.

The House Ways and Means Committee just last week had unanimously reported the bill to the full chamber. Sen. Tim Scott (R-S.C.) has introduced a <u>companion measure</u>.

ClearPath Action is a 501(c)(4) working to create and influence conservative clean energy solutions. Find out more at <u>clearpath.org</u> and <u>clearpathaction.org</u>. Also follow us on Twitter: <u>@JayFaison1</u>, <u>@powellrich</u> and <u>@ClearPathAction</u>.