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House Science Moves Bipartisan Clean Energy Package, Including Geothermal, Storage & Grid Modernization

WASHINGTON, DC -- ClearPath Action applauded the House Science, Space & Technology Committee for advancing several bipartisan clean energy innovation bills including the **Advanced Geothermal Research and Development Act,** the **Better Energy Storage Technology (BEST) Act**, and the Grid Modernization Research and Development Act.

Last week, Ranking Member Frank Lucas (R-OK) and Chairwoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) introduced **H.R. 5374** the Advanced Geothermal Research and Development Act which focuses advanced geothermal research, development, and demonstration efforts at the Department of Energy (DOE) on key challenges that could unlock gigawatts of new baseload clean energy. ClearPath Action, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Global Energy Institute, Geothermal Resources Council and other groups sent a letter to House leadership supporting the Advanced Geothermal Research and Development Act. Read the letter here.

DOE's recently published GeoVision report indicated there is enough geothermal resource potential in the United States alone to meet half of the nation's electricity needs. **Read more about the DOE announcement here**

"Geothermal energy is a flexible, dispatchable clean energy resource with immense untapped potential," said Rich **Powell, ClearPath Executive Director.** "Appropriately, the legislation focuses on enhanced geothermal systems cutting-edge research, drilling, and testing initiatives could accelerate technological breakthroughs and expand affordable domestic geothermal energy production."

The **BEST Act** would reorient the U.S. Department of Energy's grid-scale storage research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) efforts around ambitious technology and cost goals to facilitate breakthroughs for the 21st Century U.S. electricity grid's needs. The BEST Act was

originally introduced by U.S. Representatives Rep. Bill Foster (D-IL), Rep. Sean Casten (D-IL), Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA) and Rep. Anthony Gonzalez (R-OH), and today has nearly 50 cosponsors. The BEST Act has also cleared the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

"ESA commends the House Science, Space, & Technology Committee for considering an amended version of the Better Energy Storage Technology Act (H.R. 2986)," **said Kelly Speakes-Backman,CEO of the U.S. Energy Storage Association.** "To meet 21st century demands, we must elevate public investments in diverse energy storage technology development and demonstration options, to ensure resilient, efficient, sustainable, and affordable electric service. The legislation before the committee today would accelerate innovation and ensure that grid planning and operations fully utilize the flexibility of energy storage. ESA looks forward to working with a bipartisan set of supporters to align the House efforts with positive attributes of the Senate version, to pass optimal energy legislation in this Congress."

"Energy storage is a unique technology that can add value to the entire grid - in generation, transmission, and distribution. It can supply energy when demand is larger than supply, in times of grid disruptions, and when renewable resources are not available for use," **Powell added.** "The BEST Act will help us achieve clean energy solutions and ensure the U.S. is leading on storage technology solutions."

About ClearPath Action

ClearPath Action was established by businessman Jay Faison in 2014. ClearPath Action's vision is that America leads in affordably powering the world with reliable clean energy. ClearPath Action's mission is to develop and advance conservative policies that accelerate clean energy innovation. To advance that mission, ClearPath Action develops cutting-edge policy and collaborates with academics and industry. Learn more at clearpath.org. Follow us on Twitter: @JayFaison1, @powellrich, @ClearPathAction