

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2019



Clean Energy Innovation R&D Sees Big Wins in FY20 Appropriations

WASHINGTON, DC -- ClearPath Action called the fiscal 2020 spending package a big win for clean energy innovation. Both the House and Senate have passed a bill that includes more than \$13 billion for focused and outcome oriented clean energy research, development and deployment (RD&D) at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). President Donald Trump has said he will sign the bill.

“We must develop the U.S. as a test bed for globally relevant clean solutions -- using U.S. policy to help developing nations easily choose clean energy,” said **Rich Powell, ClearPath Action Executive Director**. “We need more clean, affordable, reliable, exportable offerings so developing nations consistently choose them over higher-emitting options. Leveraging DOE and our world class national labs, America is uniquely suited to seize this immense economic opportunity.”

Nuclear Energy

The bill includes \$230 million for an Advanced Reactor Demonstration Program, of which \$160 million is for the demonstration of two advanced reactors and \$20 million is for the National Reactor Innovation Center. This funding advances efforts to demonstrate the next generation of nuclear reactors in the United States, and tracks with the [Nuclear Energy Leadership Act](#)'s goal for the start of a 5 year demonstration program. Additionally, the legislation includes \$65 million for the versatile test reactor and \$20 million for the continuation of the Advanced Reactor Concepts program for two new public-private partnerships.

Carbon Capture

The bill includes \$117.8 million in the Office of Fossil Energy's budget for carbon capture of emissions from coal, natural gas, and the industrial sector, and \$100 million for carbon storage. For the first time ever, emissions from natural gas and the industrial sector were explicitly included in the carbon capture account. Additionally, funding is included for negative emissions technologies, including direct air capture.

Energy Storage

As [reported by Axios](#), energy storage has seen a 268.4% increase since fiscal year 2014. This year, there was \$56 million for energy storage — an increase of \$10 million — as well as \$1 million for the Grid Storage Launchpad.

Advanced Renewables

The legislation includes funding for DOE’s Frontier Observatory for Research in Geothermal Energy (FORGE), including \$10M for a demonstration program. In order for geothermal technology to achieve broader deployment as a zero emissions source, technological advancements are needed.

The bill also includes \$20 million for continued development of perovskite solar technology in an effort to return a majority of solar energy production to the United States.

“We must reorient our climate policy mindset from spending to investing. We cannot spend our way to this end -- the global energy system is too large, our budget too small. Rather, we must invest scarce tax dollars into clean innovations the global economy chooses on their economic merits,” **Powell added.**

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](#)