



ClearPath Endorses Senate Bill to Lower Concrete and Asphalt Emissions Through Innovation

Washington, D.C. – Thursday, December 7, 2023 – ClearPath Action is endorsing the bipartisan Concrete and Asphalt Innovation Act (CAIA) of 2023, [introduced](#) by Sens. Thom Tillis (R-NC) and Chris Coons (D-DE).

“Demand for lower emissions products is increasing across the globe, and the U.S. needs continued innovation to keep pace and ensure we are researching and deploying cutting-edge, innovative technologies to maintain a competitive advantage,” **said Rich Powell, CEO, ClearPath Action.** “The Concrete and Asphalt Innovation Act will accelerate industrial innovation and enable the United States to remain the global leader in industrial manufacturing while also lowering global emissions, creating jobs and producing affordable products.”

Fostering innovation makes low-emissions industrial materials like cement, concrete and asphalt an attractive opportunity for American companies, and investing in cutting-edge manufacturing technologies, such as carbon capture, could have positive spillover effects across the industrial and power sectors.

“We appreciate Sens. Tillis and Coons’ bipartisan leadership to strengthen U.S. manufacturing and to lower emissions in the industrial sector by providing direction at DOE for the first dedicated RD&D program to decarbonize concrete and asphalt,” Powell added.

Key provisions within the legislation include:

- **Dedicated RD&D Program:** Establishes DOE’s first crosscutting RD&D program for advanced, low-emissions cement, concrete and asphalt technologies. Requires DOE to establish long-term cost, performance and demonstration targets for different types of low-emissions cement, concrete and asphalt manufacturing.
- **Strategic Plan:** Directs DOE to develop a 5-year strategic plan to support RD&D activities, establish technological and programmatic goals, and set timelines to accomplish goals developed under the plan.
- **Low-Carbon Manufacturing Institutes:** Authorizes DOE to leverage existing Manufacturing USA Institutes or establish two new institutes: one for cement & concrete and one for asphalt. These institutes will develop partnerships with private sector partners to trial later-stage R&D and boost workforce development and job creation in domestic cement, concrete, and asphalt sectors.

CLEARPATH ACTION

- **Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Grant Program:** Authorizes FHWA to establish a voluntary grant program for any state DOT that increases its adoption of performance-based specifications to facilitate the purchase of low-emissions cement, concrete and asphalt. The grant program provides reimbursement for states to purchase low-carbon materials and funds technical assistance needed to modernize specifications to be performance-based.
- **Advanced Purchase Commitment (APC):** Authorizes DOT to procure and/or commit to purchase low-emissions cement, concrete and asphalt if conditions for quality, delivery, and low-emissions are met. The APC provides demand certainty needed for low-emissions producers to scale the production of innovative products.

Media Contact:

Luke Bolar

Bolar@clearpathaction.org

202-355-3677

About ClearPath Action

ClearPath Action 501(c)(4) advocates for more clean energy innovation, modernized permitting and regulatory reform, America's global competitiveness for manufacturing, and unlocking more American resources — solutions drawn from our friends at ClearPath. Learn more at clearpathaction.org. Follow us on Twitter: @ClearPathAction, @powellrich

###