



SENATE APPROVES EAGLE-EYED CLEAN ENERGY SPENDING PLAN

WASHINGTON, JUNE 25, 2018 -- The Senate approved a FY19 spending bill with critical eagle-eyed investments in carbon capture, advanced nuclear and energy storage today by a vote of 86-5.

“The Senate bill sends an undeniable message that lawmakers are serious about keeping the U.S. in the top tier of countries pursuing clean and reliable energy breakthroughs,” ClearPath Action Executive Director Rich Powell said.

Among the highlights:

- Directs the Department of Energy to pursue a [“moonshot” goal](#) for accelerating the development of cheap grid-scale energy storage solutions with the private sector
- \$30 million is provided for Front-End Engineering and Design (FEED) assistance for two commercial-scale carbon capture power projects to retrofit an existing coal plant and for a coal or natural gas plant that generates CO₂ suitable for utilization or storage
- Aggressive funding and programmatic direction for nuclear energy research, development and demonstration, including:
 - \$150 million for Advanced Reactor Technology work, including \$22 million for the fourth year of X-Energy and TerraPower’s advanced reactor concepts program collaboration
 - \$30 million for a transformational challenge reactor to work on new methods of reactor design, manufacturing, licensing and operation
 - \$15 million for a new versatile test reactor, building off the initial resources provided in the recently-enacted FY18 omnibus. The VTR is a national lab facility critical to the private advanced nuclear development

- \$41 million for grid-scale energy storage research, development and demonstration, which can secure better peak demand usage of intermittent renewable and constant-running nuclear power. This is partnered with full funding for the Joint Center for Energy Storage Research (JCESR), a non-lithium ion battery storage research consortium comprised of national lab experts, academia and private-sector entrepreneurs
- \$375 million for DOE's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E), a highly-successful effort for boosting private activity and research projects outside of typical programs

In the coming months, Congressional leaders will aim to reconcile differences between this bill and [the innovation-focused bill passed by the House](#) earlier this month.

About ClearPath Action

Founded by businessman Jay Faison, ClearPath Action's mission is to accelerate conservative clean energy solutions. To advance the mission, ClearPath Action develops cutting-edge policy and messaging and works with policymakers and industry.