



CENTER FOR CLIMATE AND ENERGY SOLUTIONS



The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
172 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Barrasso
307 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Cory Booker
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
530 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Capito, Barrasso, Whitehouse, Crapo, and Booker:

We write to express our support for the *American Nuclear Infrastructure Act* (ANIA) and to encourage you to reintroduce and advance the legislation. The innovative programs established in this bill support currently operating nuclear reactors and the next generation of reactor technologies.

ANIA would direct the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to continue to modernize its regulatory review processes. Efficiencies in the environmental review process and reviewing new license applications will help enable nuclear energy to deploy at a rapid enough scale to support decarbonization. In addition, preemptively reviewing U.S. Department of Energy sites for demonstration reactors can help companies partner with the National Labs to test out innovative concepts, including advanced methods of manufacturing and construction.

Awarding prizes to first mover companies supports competition, but also recognizes the challenges of being first through the licensing process when using innovative technologies. The targeted credit program to preserve the existing nuclear fleet, the foundation of our nation's low carbon electricity, allows plants to continue decreasing operating costs without prematurely shutting down.

Advanced nuclear, due to its dispatchable and high temperature attributes, can also be used to decarbonize other energy sectors. Identifying any unique licensing considerations related to using nuclear energy for non-electric applications will help ensure there are no undue barriers.

Today nearly 30 countries have expressed interest in building nuclear energy. Empowering the NRC to engage with and help develop other countries' regulatory agencies strengthens international safety and security standards. Furthermore, permitting investments by allied countries strengthens the United States by building long-term partnerships that could lead to deploying U.S. reactors in other international markets. Both of these provisions, as well as other aspects of the legislation, take a long-term view on the role the United States should play in the global nuclear industry.

Finally, ANIA includes important provisions that would provide for Superfund cleanup at abandoned mine sites, including sites on Tribal land, and require health assessments for certain sites on Tribal land.

The *American Nuclear Infrastructure Act* is an important next step in modernizing our regulatory infrastructure and rebuilding our nuclear industrial capabilities. We look forward to working with you and other members on this proposal.

June 1, 2021

Sincerely,

American Nuclear Society
ARC Clean Energy LLC
BWX Technologies, Inc.
Center for Climate and Energy Solutions
Clean Air Task Force
ClearPath Action
Climate Coalition
Edison Electric Institute
Energy Northwest
Framatome Inc.
GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy
Generation Atomic
Holtec International
Kairos Power LLC
Nuclear Energy Institute
Nuclear Innovation Alliance
Nucleation Capital
Orano USA
TerraPower
TerraPraxis
Third Way
U.S. Chamber of Commerce Global Energy Institute
U.S. Nuclear Industry Council
X-Energy, LLC