



March 9, 2020

Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson
Representative Frank Lucas
House Science, Space and Technology Committee
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Johnson and Ranking Member Lucas:

On behalf of ClearPath Action, a 501(c)4 organization working to accelerate policies for clean energy innovation, I am writing to support the *Water Power Research and Development Act*. This legislation would reauthorize and support the innovation for advanced water power research and development. Specifically, the legislation will:

- Directs the Secretary of Energy to implement a research, development, demonstration, and commercial application program for water power resources;
- Encourages new RD&D in marine energy technologies, including the creation of new National Marine Energy Centers to catalyze the development of new technologies and;
- Increases the coordination of industry, the DOE, NOAA, DOD and National Labs.

Water power is a clean and diverse resource with flexible capabilities. A recent DOE report, HydroVision illustrated the opportunities associated with a vibrant RD&D and commercial application program. This includes the potential growth of the hydropower industry as a whole expanding from 101 GW to 150 GW with significant growth in existing hydropower upgrades close to 13GW alongside powering non-powered dams and pumped storage hydropower.

The *Water Power Research and Development Act* is a bipartisan bill with the potential to play a crucial role in a clean energy economy. The existing hydropower industry as well as the future of pumped storage hydropower, and marine energy resources will greatly benefit.

Thank you for your continued leadership to advance American clean energy and we stand ready to help pass this important legislation this Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rich Powell".

Rich Powell
Executive Director, ClearPath Action