



January 13, 2020

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
2306 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Frank Lucas
2405 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

Dear Chairwoman Johnson and Ranking Member Lucas,

On behalf of Fervo Energy, an advanced geothermal technology company, I am writing to support the *Advanced Geothermal Research and Development Act of 2019 (AGRDA)*. The act implements vital policy updates that will guarantee the US' continued leadership in geothermal technology. As a private sector developer, Fervo focuses on development of novel technology to increase the potential of geothermal and can appreciate the importance of public-private partnership to drive new innovation.

The US leads the world in geothermal generation, but has recently lagged the international community in growth. In 2018, the US installed just 48 new MW of geothermal, versus 294 MW in Turkey and 139 MW in Indonesia. Federal support for geothermal in the most recent year totaled \$86 million, just 4% of support for solar (\$2,231 million) and 3% that of biofuels (\$2,813 million).

AGRDA will take several key steps that will help private-sector companies like Fervo continue to support American leadership in the field of advanced geothermal technology, including:

- Facilitates the transfer of technology from the oil and gas sector to the geothermal sector.
- Increases resources for promising initiatives such as strategic mineral coproduction.
- Provides support for the Frontier Observatory for Research in Geothermal Energy (FORGE), the most important geothermal test bed ever developed, including the selection of up to 3 sites, which will greatly increase the efficacy of FORGE.
- Enables the creation of demonstration sites in diverse geologies, including one in the eastern US, to ensure that the learnings from FORGE are rapidly transferred to the private sector and deployed at sites with potential for commercial viability.
- Increases appropriated funds for geothermal development to \$129,500,000 by 2024 to better reflect geothermal's growing importance in America's new energy economy.

Continued American leadership in geothermal power means energy security, improved readiness for climate change and the energy transition, and developing a valuable, exportable American technology. The AGRDA is a crucial step to maintaining that tradition of American leadership.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Latimer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tim Latimer
Co-Founder and CEO, Fervo Energy