

September 4, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steve Scalise
Minority Whip
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leaders Hoyer and McCarthy, and Whip Scalise:

We are writing to thank you for committing to bring an energy innovation package to the floor of the House of Representatives later this month. The coming weeks provide an important opportunity for this Congress to pass bi-partisan, bicameral legislation that will spur needed energy innovation and help pave the way for rapidly addressing climate change.

Our organizations are united in their desire to move forward aggressively to create a reliable, net-zero energy system over the next three decades. That will not happen overnight and will require a technology inclusive approach that allows for multiple energy options to be explored at a variety of development stages. We need legislation now to begin that work immediately.

Led by Chair Johnson and Ranking Member Lucas, the Committee on Science, Space and Technology has reported a valuable suite of legislative provisions in areas such as carbon capture and utilization, advanced nuclear, renewable energy, energy storage, advanced geothermal energy, grid modernization, and other key technologies. This legislation will be the basis for a strong innovation package, and other committees can make important contributions as well. H.R. 2, which passed the House in July, contained important energy infrastructure provisions from the Transportation and Infrastructure and Energy and Commerce Committees that should be considered as well.

Despite the pressing nature of the COVID crisis, action on climate and energy policy is an important step for this Congress to take. As you know, an energy innovation package was being readied for floor consideration prior to the onset of the COVID crisis and that action has now been delayed for several months. We are encouraged you are taking advantage of this opportunity for significant action on climate and energy this year. We believe that the Senate is also poised to act, and the strong signal that the House will soon provide will build valuable momentum for bi-partisan action in both chambers.

We appreciate and applaud your leadership on the COVID crisis and your continuing commitment to addressing the key issues of the day, including climate change. The legislation before you to consider will create a better future for us all: more jobs, cleaner, cheaper energy sources, and a boost in our overall competitiveness. We pledge to work with both chambers of Congress, on both sides of the aisle to make that vision a reality.

Thank you.

Clean Air Task Force
Bipartisan Policy Center Action
Information Technology and Innovation Foundation
ThirdWay
Center for Climate and Energy Solutions
Carbon180
Energy Blue

CC: The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Chair
Committee on Science, Space and Technology

The Honorable Frank Lucas
Ranking Member
Committee on Science, Space and Technology