

December 9, 2015

Honorable Lamar Smith
Chairman
Committee on Science, Space & Technology
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Ranking Member
Committee on Science, Space & Technology
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member Johnson:

I write on behalf of the over 10,000 men and women of the American Nuclear Society to express our support for H.R. 4084, the Nuclear Energy Innovation Capabilities Act of 2015.

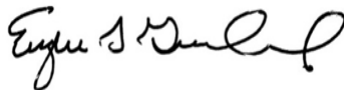
It is becoming increasingly clear that the U.S. and the world will need to significantly expand nuclear generating capacity in the coming decades to address growing energy demands while reducing emissions of greenhouse gases.

Expanded federal engagement in advanced, non-light-water nuclear research and development is critical to achieving these overall objectives. The Nuclear Energy Innovation Capabilities Act would assist U.S. companies in accessing the full range of technical capabilities within the federal government and national laboratories; accelerate development of world leading scientific user facilities; and promote broader technology commercialization through public-private partnership initiatives.

Historically, the U.S. has led the world in developing new reactor technology. However, several other nations, including Russia and China, have moved aggressively to develop innovative Generation IV reactors which offer distinct advantages over current designs.

The U.S. must recommit itself to improving its advanced reactor technology portfolio in order to maintain its influence over global nuclear safety and nonproliferation norms. This legislation, if enacted, would provide needed support toward that objective.

Sincerely,



Eugene S. Grecheck
President
American Nuclear Society