

American Nuclear Society
555 N. Kensington Ave.
La Grange Park, IL 60526
708-352-6611



January 22, 2016

Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ms. Chairman and Ranking Member Cantwell:

I write on behalf of the over 11,000 men and women of the American Nuclear Society to express our support for S. 2461, the Nuclear Energy Innovation Capabilities Act.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eugene S. Grecheck', written in a cursive style.

Eugene S. Grecheck
President
American Nuclear Society