

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 589, With an Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 589

To establish Department of Energy policy for science and energy research and development programs, and reform National Laboratory management and technology transfer programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 20, 2017

Mr. SMITH of Texas (for himself, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. ESTY, Mr. BABIN, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Mr. TONKO, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. DUNN, and Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To establish Department of Energy policy for science and energy research and development programs, and reform National Laboratory management and technology transfer programs, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
3 “Department of Energy Research and Innovation Act”.

4 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of
5 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

**TITLE I—LABORATORY MODERNIZATION AND TECHNOLOGY
TRANSFER**

Sec. 101. Short title.

Sec. 102. Inclusion of early stage technology demonstration in authorized technology transfer activities.

Sec. 103. Sense of Congress on accelerating energy innovation.

Sec. 104. Restoration of laboratory directed research and development program.

Sec. 105. Research grants database.

Sec. 106. Technology transfer and transitions assessment.

Sec. 107. Agreements for commercializing technology pilot program.

Sec. 108. Short-term cost-share pilot program.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RESEARCH COORDINATION

Sec. 201. Short title.

Sec. 202. Protection of information.

Sec. 203. Crosscutting research and development.

Sec. 204. Strategic research portfolio analysis and coordination plan.

Sec. 205. Strategy for facilities and infrastructure.

Sec. 206. Energy Innovation Hubs.

**TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OFFICE OF SCIENCE
POLICY**

Sec. 301. Short title.

Sec. 302. Mission.

Sec. 303. Basic energy sciences.

Sec. 304. Advanced scientific computing research.

Sec. 305. High-energy physics.

Sec. 306. Biological and environmental research.

Sec. 307. Fusion energy.

Sec. 308. Nuclear physics.

Sec. 309. Science laboratories infrastructure program.

TITLE IV—NUCLEAR ENERGY INNOVATION CAPABILITIES

Sec. 401. Short title.

Sec. 402. Nuclear energy innovation capabilities.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
2 means the Department of Energy.

3 (2) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
4 the Director of the Office of Science of the Depart-
5 ment, except as otherwise indicated.

6 (3) NATIONAL LABORATORY.—The term “Na-
7 tional Laboratory” has the meaning given that term
8 in section 2 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42
9 U.S.C. 15801).

10 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
11 the Secretary of Energy.

12 **TITLE I—LABORATORY MOD-**
13 **ERNIZATION AND TECH-**
14 **NOLOGY TRANSFER**

15 **SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.**

16 This title may be cited as the “Laboratory Mod-
17 ernization and Technology Transfer Act”.

18 **SEC. 102. INCLUSION OF EARLY STAGE TECHNOLOGY DEM-**
19 **ONSTRATION IN AUTHORIZED TECHNOLOGY**
20 **TRANSFER ACTIVITIES.**

21 Section 1001 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42
22 U.S.C. 16391) is amended—

23 (1) by redesignating subsection (g) as sub-
24 section (h); and

1 (2) by inserting after subsection (f) the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(g) **EARLY STAGE TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRA-**
4 **TION.**—The Secretary shall permit the directors of the Na-
5 tional Laboratories to use funds authorized to support
6 technology transfer within the Department to carry out
7 early stage and precommercial technology demonstration
8 activities to remove technology barriers that limit private
9 sector interest and demonstrate potential commercial ap-
10 plications of any research and technologies arising from
11 National Laboratory activities.”.

12 **SEC. 103. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON ACCELERATING ENERGY**
13 **INNOVATION.**

14 It is the sense of Congress that—

15 (1) although important progress has been made
16 in cost reduction and deployment of clean energy
17 technologies, accelerating clean energy innovation
18 will help meet critical competitiveness, energy secu-
19 rity, and environmental goals;

20 (2) accelerating the pace of clean energy inno-
21 vation in the United States calls for—

22 (A) supporting existing research and devel-
23 opment programs at the Department and the
24 world-class National Laboratories;

1 (B) exploring and developing new path-
2 ways for innovators, investors, and decision-
3 makers to leverage the resources of the Depart-
4 ment for addressing the challenges and com-
5 parative strengths of geographic regions; and

6 (C) recognizing the financial constraints of
7 the Department, regularly reviewing clean en-
8 ergy programs to ensure that taxpayer invest-
9 ments are maximized;

10 (3) the energy supply, demand, policies, mar-
11 kets, and resource options of the United States vary
12 by geographic region;

13 (4) a regional approach to innovation can
14 bridge the gaps between local talent, institutions,
15 and industries to identify opportunities and convert
16 United States investment into domestic companies;
17 and

18 (5) Congress, the Secretary, and energy indus-
19 try participants should advance efforts that promote
20 international, domestic, and regional cooperation on
21 the research and development of energy innovations
22 that—

23 (A) provide clean, affordable, and reliable
24 energy for everyone;

25 (B) promote economic growth;

1 (C) are critical for energy security; and

2 (D) are sustainable without government
3 support.

4 **SEC. 104. RESTORATION OF LABORATORY DIRECTED RE-**
5 **SEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
7 (b), the Secretary shall ensure that laboratory operating
8 contractors do not allocate costs of general and adminis-
9 trative overhead to laboratory directed research and devel-
10 opment.

11 (b) EXCEPTION FOR NATIONAL SECURITY LABORA-
12 TORIES.—This section shall not apply to the national secu-
13 rity laboratories with respect to which section 3119 of the
14 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017
15 (Public Law 114-328) applies.

16 **SEC. 105. RESEARCH GRANTS DATABASE.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and
18 maintain a public database, accessible on the website of
19 the Department, that contains a searchable listing of each
20 unclassified research and development project contract,
21 grant, cooperative agreement, task order for a federally
22 funded research and development center, or other trans-
23 action administered by the Department.

24 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—Each listing described in sub-
25 section (a) shall include, at a minimum, for each listed

1 project, the Department office carrying out the project,
2 the project name, an abstract or summary of the project,
3 funding levels, project duration, contractor or grantee
4 name (including the names of any subcontractors), and
5 expected objectives and milestones.

6 (c) RELEVANT LITERATURE AND PATENTS.—The
7 Secretary shall provide information through the public
8 database established under subsection (a) on relevant lit-
9 erature and patents that are associated with each research
10 and development project contract, grant, or cooperative
11 agreement, or other transaction, of the Department.

12 **SEC. 106. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND TRANSITIONS AS-**
13 **SESSMENT.**

14 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
15 of this Act, and as often as the Secretary determines to
16 be necessary thereafter, the Secretary shall transmit to the
17 appropriate committees of Congress a report that includes
18 recommended changes to the policy of the Department and
19 legislative changes to section 1001 of the Energy Policy
20 Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16391) to improve the ability of
21 the Department to successfully transfer new energy tech-
22 nologies to the private sector.

1 **SEC. 107. AGREEMENTS FOR COMMERCIALIZING TECH-**
2 **NOLOGY PILOT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out the
4 Agreements for Commercializing Technology pilot pro-
5 gram of the Department, as announced by the Secretary
6 on December 8, 2011, in accordance with this section.

7 (b) TERMS.—Each agreement entered into pursuant
8 to the pilot program referred to in subsection (a) shall
9 provide to the contractor of the applicable National Lab-
10 oratory, to the maximum extent determined to be appro-
11 priate by the Secretary, increased authority to negotiate
12 contract terms, such as intellectual property rights, pay-
13 ment structures, performance guarantees, and multiparty
14 collaborations.

15 (c) ELIGIBILITY.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Any director of a National
17 Laboratory may enter into an agreement pursuant
18 to the pilot program referred to in subsection (a).

19 (2) AGREEMENTS WITH NON-FEDERAL ENTI-
20 TIES.—To carry out paragraph (1) and subject to
21 paragraph (3), the Secretary shall permit the direc-
22 tors of the National Laboratories to execute agree-
23 ments with a non-Federal entity, including a non-
24 Federal entity already receiving Federal funding
25 that will be used to support activities under agree-
26 ments executed pursuant to paragraph (1), provided

1 that such funding is solely used to carry out the
2 purposes of the Federal award.

3 (3) RESTRICTION.—The requirements of chap-
4 ter 18 of title 35, United States Code (commonly
5 known as the “Bayh-Dole Act”) shall apply if—

6 (A) the agreement is a funding agreement
7 (as that term is defined in section 201 of that
8 title); and

9 (B) at least one of the parties to the fund-
10 ing agreement is eligible to receive rights under
11 that chapter.

12 (d) SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY.—Each affected di-
13 rector of a National Laboratory shall submit to the Sec-
14 retary, with respect to each agreement entered into under
15 this section—

16 (1) a summary of information relating to the
17 relevant project;

18 (2) the total estimated costs of the project;

19 (3) estimated commencement and completion
20 dates of the project; and

21 (4) other documentation determined to be ap-
22 propriate by the Secretary.

23 (e) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall require the
24 contractor of the affected National Laboratory to certify

1 that each activity carried out under a project for which
2 an agreement is entered into under this section—

3 (1) is not in direct competition with the private
4 sector; and

5 (2) does not present, or minimizes, any appar-
6 ent conflict of interest, and avoids or neutralizes any
7 actual conflict of interest, as a result of the agree-
8 ment under this section.

9 (f) EXTENSION.—The pilot program referred to in
10 subsection (a) shall be extended until September 30, 2019.

11 (g) REPORTS.—

12 (1) OVERALL ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 60
13 days after the date described in subsection (f), the
14 Secretary, in coordination with directors of the Na-
15 tional Laboratories, shall submit to the appropriate
16 committees of Congress a report that—

17 (A) assesses the overall effectiveness of the
18 pilot program referred to in subsection (a);

19 (B) identifies opportunities to improve the
20 effectiveness of the pilot program;

21 (C) assesses the potential for program ac-
22 tivities to interfere with the responsibilities of
23 the National Laboratories to the Department;
24 and

1 (D) provides a recommendation regarding
2 the future of the pilot program.

3 (2) TRANSPARENCY.—The Secretary, in coordi-
4 nation with directors of the National Laboratories,
5 shall submit to the appropriate committees of Con-
6 gress an annual report that accounts for all
7 incidences of, and provides a justification for, non-
8 Federal entities using funds derived from a Federal
9 contract or award to carry out agreements pursuant
10 to this section.

11 **SEC. 108. SHORT-TERM COST-SHARE PILOT PROGRAM.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 988(b) of the Energy Pol-
13 icy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16352(b)) is amended—

14 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “Except as
15 provided in paragraphs (2) and (3)” and inserting
16 “Except as provided in paragraphs (2), (3), and
17 (4)”; and

18 (2) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(4) EXEMPTION FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGH-
20 ER EDUCATION AND OTHER NONPROFIT INSTITU-
21 TIONS.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) shall
23 not apply to a research or development activity
24 performed by an institution of higher education
25 or nonprofit institution (as defined in section 4

1 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation
2 Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3703)).

3 “(B) TERMINATION DATE.—The exemp-
4 tion under subparagraph (A) shall apply during
5 the 2-year period beginning on the date of en-
6 actment of this paragraph.”.

7 (b) REPORTS.—

8 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—As soon as practicable
9 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
10 retary shall submit to the appropriate committees of
11 Congress a report that describes the use of cost-
12 sharing waivers by the Department under section
13 988(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C.
14 16352(b)) during the 2-year period ending on the
15 date of enactment of this Act.

16 (2) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Annually during the 2-
17 year period beginning on the date of enactment of
18 this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appro-
19 priate committees of Congress a report that de-
20 scribes the use of cost-sharing waivers by the De-
21 partment under section 988(b) of the Energy Policy
22 Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16352(b)) during the period
23 covered by the report.

1 **TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF EN-**
2 **ERGY RESEARCH COORDINA-**
3 **TION**

4 **SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.**

5 This title may be cited as the “Department of Energy
6 Research Coordination Act”.

7 **SEC. 202. PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.**

8 Section 5012 of the America Competes Act (42
9 U.S.C. 16538) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a)(3), by striking “subsection
11 (n)(1)” and inserting “subsection (o)(1)”;

12 (2) by redesignating subsection (n) as sub-
13 section (o); and

14 (3) by inserting after subsection (m) the fol-
15 lowing:

16 “(n) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—The following
17 types of information collected by ARPA–E from recipients
18 of financial assistance awards shall be considered commer-
19 cial and financial information obtained from a person and
20 privileged or confidential and not subject to disclosure
21 under section 552(b)(4) of title 5, United States Code:

22 “(1) Plans for commercialization of technologies
23 developed under the award, including business plans,
24 technology-to-market plans, market studies, and cost
25 and performance models.

1 “(2) Investments provided to an awardee from
2 third parties (such as venture capital firms, hedge
3 funds, and private equity firms), including amounts
4 and the percentage of ownership of the awardee pro-
5 vided in return for the investments.

6 “(3) Additional financial support that the
7 awardee—

8 “(A) plans to or has invested into the tech-
9 nology developed under the award; or

10 “(B) is seeking from third parties.

11 “(4) Revenue from the licensing or sale of new
12 products or services resulting from research con-
13 ducted under the award.”.

14 **SEC. 203. CROSSCUTTING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use the capa-
16 bilities of the Department to identify strategic opportuni-
17 ties for collaborative research, development, demonstra-
18 tion, and commercial application of innovative science and
19 technologies.

20 (b) EXISTING PROGRAMS; COORDINATION OF ACTIVI-
21 TIES.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary
22 shall seek—

23 (1) to leverage existing programs of the Depart-
24 ment; and

1 (2) to consolidate and coordinate activities
2 throughout the Department to promote collaboration
3 and crosscutting approaches within programs of the
4 Department.

5 (c) ADDITIONAL ACTIONS.—The Secretary shall—

6 (1) prioritize activities that use all affordable
7 domestic resources;

8 (2) develop a planning, evaluation, and tech-
9 nical assessment framework for setting objective
10 long-term strategic goals and evaluating progress
11 that—

12 (A) ensures integrity and independence;

13 and

14 (B) provides the flexibility to adapt to
15 market dynamics;

16 (3) ensure that activities shall be undertaken in
17 a manner that does not duplicate other activities
18 within the Department or other Federal Government
19 activities; and

20 (4) identify programs that may be more effec-
21 tively left to the States, industry, nongovernmental
22 organizations, institutions of higher education, or
23 other stakeholders.

1 **SEC. 204. STRATEGIC RESEARCH PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS**
2 **AND COORDINATION PLAN.**

3 The Energy Policy Act of 2005 is amended by strik-
4 ing section 994 (42 U.S.C. 16358) and inserting the fol-
5 lowing:

6 **“SEC. 994. STRATEGIC RESEARCH PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS**
7 **AND COORDINATION PLAN.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall periodically
9 review all of the science and technology activities of the
10 Department in a strategic framework that takes into ac-
11 count—

12 “(1) the frontiers of science to which the De-
13 partment can contribute;

14 “(2) the national needs relevant to the statu-
15 tory missions of the Department; and

16 “(3) global energy dynamics.

17 “(b) COORDINATION ANALYSIS AND PLAN.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As part of the review under
19 subsection (a), the Secretary shall develop a plan to
20 improve coordination and collaboration in research,
21 development, demonstration, and commercial appli-
22 cation activities across organizational boundaries of
23 the Department.

24 “(2) PLAN CONTENTS.—The plan developed
25 under paragraph (1) shall describe—

1 “(A) crosscutting scientific and technical
2 issues and research questions that span more
3 than 1 program or major office of the Depart-
4 ment;

5 “(B) ways in which the applied technology
6 programs of the Department are coordinating
7 activities and addressing the questions referred
8 to in subparagraph (A);

9 “(C) ways in which the technical inter-
10 change within the Department, particularly be-
11 tween the Office of Science and the applied
12 technology programs, could be enhanced, in-
13 cluding ways in which the research agendas of
14 the Office of Science and the applied programs
15 could better interact and assist each other;

16 “(D) ways in which the Secretary would
17 ensure that the overall research agenda of the
18 Department includes, in addition to funda-
19 mental, curiosity-driven research, fundamental
20 research related to topics of concern to the ap-
21 plied programs, and applications in Depart-
22 mental technology programs of research results
23 generated by fundamental, curiosity-driven re-
24 search;

1 “(E) critical assessments of any ongoing
2 programs that have experienced subpar per-
3 formance or cost overruns of 10 percent or
4 more over 1 or more years;

5 “(F) any activities that may be more effec-
6 tively left to the States, industry, nongovern-
7 mental organizations, institutions of higher edu-
8 cation, or other stakeholders; and

9 “(G) detailed evaluations and proposals for
10 innovation hubs, institutes, and research cen-
11 ters of the Department, including—

12 “(i) an affirmation that the hubs, in-
13 stitutes, and research centers will—

14 “(I) advance the mission of the
15 Department; and

16 “(II) prioritize research, develop-
17 ment, and demonstration; and

18 “(ii) an affirmation that any hubs, in-
19 stitutes, or research centers that are estab-
20 lished or renewed within the Office of
21 Science are consistent with the mission of
22 the Office of Science described in sub-
23 section (c) of section 209 of the Depart-
24 ment of Energy Organization Act (42
25 U.S.C. 7139).

1 “(c) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Every 4 years, the
2 Secretary shall submit to Congress—

3 “(1) the results of the review under subsection
4 (a); and

5 “(2) the coordination plan under subsection
6 (b).”.

7 **SEC. 205. STRATEGY FOR FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUC-**
8 **TURE.**

9 (a) AMENDMENTS.—Section 993 of the Energy Pol-
10 icy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16357) is amended—

11 (1) by striking the section heading and insert-
12 ing the following: “**STRATEGY FOR FACILITIES**
13 **AND INFRASTRUCTURE**”; and

14 (2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “2008”
15 and inserting “2018”.

16 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
17 in section 1(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 is amend-
18 ed by striking the item relating to section 993 and insert-
19 ing the following:

“Sec. 993. Strategy for facilities and infrastructure.”.

20 **SEC. 206. ENERGY INNOVATION HUBS.**

21 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 (1) **ADVANCED ENERGY TECHNOLOGY.**—The
23 term “advanced energy technology” means—

24 (A) an innovative technology—

- 1 (i) that produces energy from solar,
2 wind, geothermal, biomass, tidal, wave,
3 ocean, or other renewable energy resources;
- 4 (ii) that produces nuclear energy;
- 5 (iii) for carbon capture and sequestra-
6 tion;
- 7 (iv) that enables advanced vehicles,
8 vehicle components, and related tech-
9 nologies that result in significant energy
10 savings;
- 11 (v) that generates, transmits, distrib-
12 utes, uses, or stores energy more efficiently
13 than conventional technologies, including
14 through Smart Grid technologies; or
- 15 (vi) that enhances the energy inde-
16 pendence and security of the United States
17 by enabling improved or expanded supply
18 and production of domestic energy re-
19 sources, including coal, oil, and natural
20 gas;
- 21 (B) a research, development, demonstra-
22 tion, or commercial application activity nec-
23 essary to ensure the long-term, secure, and sus-
24 tainable supply of an energy-critical element; or

1 (C) any other innovative energy technology
2 area identified by the Secretary.

3 (2) HUB.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Hub”
5 means an Energy Innovation Hub established
6 under this section.

7 (B) INCLUSION.—The term “Hub” in-
8 cludes any Energy Innovation Hub in existence
9 on the date of enactment of this Act.

10 (3) QUALIFYING ENTITY.—The term “quali-
11 fying entity” means—

12 (A) an institution of higher education;

13 (B) an appropriate State or Federal entity,
14 including a federally funded research and devel-
15 opment center of the Department;

16 (C) a nongovernmental organization with
17 expertise in advanced energy technology re-
18 search, development, demonstration, or com-
19 mercial application; or

20 (D) any other relevant entity the Secretary
21 determines appropriate.

22 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAM.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
24 out a program to enhance the economic, environ-
25 mental, and energy security of the United States by

1 making awards to consortia for establishing and op-
2 erating hubs, to be known as “Energy Innovation
3 Hubs”, to conduct and support, at, if practicable, 1
4 centralized location, multidisciplinary, collaborative
5 research, development, demonstration, and commer-
6 cial application of advanced energy technologies.

7 (2) TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FOCUS.—The
8 Secretary shall designate for each Hub a unique ad-
9 vanced energy technology or basic research focus.

10 (3) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall en-
11 sure the coordination of, and avoid unnecessary du-
12 plication of, the activities of each Hub with the ac-
13 tivities of—

14 (A) other research entities of the Depart-
15 ment, including the National Laboratories, the
16 Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy,
17 and Energy Frontier Research Centers; and

18 (B) industry.

19 (c) APPLICATION PROCESS.—

20 (1) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive an
21 award for the establishment and operation of a Hub
22 under subsection (b)(1), a consortium shall—

23 (A) be composed of not fewer than 2 quali-
24 fying entities;

1 (B) operate subject to a binding agree-
2 ment, entered into by each member of the con-
3 sortium, that documents—

4 (i) the proposed partnership agree-
5 ment, including the governance and man-
6 agement structure of the Hub;

7 (ii) measures the consortium will un-
8 dertake to enable cost-effective implemen-
9 tation of activities under the program de-
10 scribed in subsection (b)(1); and

11 (iii) a proposed budget, including fi-
12 nancial contributions from non-Federal
13 sources; and

14 (C) operate as a nonprofit organization.

15 (2) APPLICATION.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—A consortium seeking
17 to establish and operate a Hub under sub-
18 section (b)(1) shall submit to the Secretary an
19 application at such time, in such manner, and
20 containing such information as the Secretary
21 may require, including a detailed description of
22 each element of the consortium agreement re-
23 quired under paragraph (1)(B).

24 (B) REQUIREMENT.—If the consortium
25 members will not be located at 1 centralized lo-

1 cation, the application under subparagraph (A)
2 shall include a communications plan that en-
3 sures close coordination and integration of Hub
4 activities.

5 (3) SELECTION.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall se-
7 lect consortia for awards for the establishment
8 and operation of Hubs through a competitive
9 selection process.

10 (B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In selecting con-
11 sortia under subparagraph (A), the Secretary
12 shall consider—

13 (i) the information disclosed by the
14 consortium under this subsection; and

15 (ii) any existing facilities a consortium
16 will provide for Hub activities.

17 (d) TERM.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—An award made to a Hub
19 under this section shall be for a period of not more
20 than 5 years, subject to the availability of appropria-
21 tions, after which the award may be renewed, sub-
22 ject to a rigorous merit review.

23 (2) EXISTING HUBS.—A Hub already in exist-
24 ence on, or undergoing a renewal process on, the
25 date of enactment of this Act—

1 (A) may continue to receive support during
2 the 5-year period beginning on the date of es-
3 tablishment of that Hub; and

4 (B) shall be eligible for renewal of that
5 support at the end of that 5-year period.

6 (e) HUB OPERATIONS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each Hub shall conduct or
8 provide for multidisciplinary, collaborative research,
9 development, demonstration, and commercial appli-
10 cation of advanced energy technologies within the
11 technology development focus designated under sub-
12 section (b)(2).

13 (2) ACTIVITIES.—Each Hub shall—

14 (A) encourage collaboration and commu-
15 nication among the member qualifying entities
16 of the consortium and awardees;

17 (B) develop and publish proposed plans
18 and programs on a publicly accessible website;

19 (C) submit an annual report to the De-
20 partment summarizing the activities of the
21 Hub, including—

22 (i) detailing organizational expendi-
23 tures; and

24 (ii) describing each project under-
25 taken by the Hub; and

1 (D) monitor project implementation and
2 coordination.

3 (3) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—Each Hub shall
4 maintain conflict of interest procedures, consistent
5 with the conflict of interest procedures of the De-
6 partment.

7 (4) PROHIBITION ON CONSTRUCTION.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
9 subparagraph (B)—

10 (i) no funds provided under this sec-
11 tion may be used for construction of new
12 buildings or facilities for Hubs; and

13 (ii) construction of new buildings or
14 facilities shall not be considered as part of
15 the non-Federal share of a Hub cost-shar-
16 ing agreement.

17 (B) TEST BED AND RENOVATION EXCEP-
18 TION.—Nothing in this paragraph prohibits the
19 use of funds provided under this section or non-
20 Federal cost share funds for the construction of
21 a test bed or renovations to existing buildings
22 or facilities for the purposes of research if the
23 Secretary determines that the test bed or ren-
24 ovations are limited to a scope and scale nec-
25 essary for the research to be conducted.

1 **TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF EN-**
2 **ERGY OFFICE OF SCIENCE**
3 **POLICY**

4 **SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.**

5 This title may be cited as the “Department of Energy
6 Office of Science Policy Act”.

7 **SEC. 302. MISSION.**

8 Section 209 of the Department of Energy Organiza-
9 tion Act (42 U.S.C. 7139) is amended by adding at the
10 end the following:

11 “(c) MISSION.—The mission of the Office of Science
12 shall be the delivery of scientific discoveries, capabilities,
13 and major scientific tools to transform the understanding
14 of nature and to advance the energy, economic, and na-
15 tional security of the United States.”.

16 **SEC. 303. BASIC ENERGY SCIENCES.**

17 (a) ENERGY FRONTIER RESEARCH CENTERS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall carry out
19 a program to provide awards, on a competitive,
20 merit-reviewed basis, to multi-institutional collabora-
21 tions or other appropriate entities to conduct funda-
22 mental and use-inspired energy research to accel-
23 erate scientific breakthroughs.

1 (2) COLLABORATIONS.—A collaboration receiv-
2 ing an award under this subsection may include mul-
3 tiple types of institutions and private sector entities.

4 (3) SELECTION AND DURATION.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—A collaboration under
6 this subsection shall be selected for a period of
7 4 years.

8 (B) EXISTING CENTERS.—An Energy
9 Frontier Research Center in existence and sup-
10 ported by the Director on the date of enactment
11 of this Act may continue to receive support for
12 a period of 4 years beginning on the date of es-
13 tablishment of that center.

14 (C) REAPPLICATION.—After the end of the
15 period described in subparagraph (A) or (B), as
16 applicable, a recipient of an award may reapply
17 for selection on a competitive, merit-reviewed
18 basis.

19 (D) TERMINATION.—Consistent with the
20 existing authorities of the Department, the Di-
21 rector may terminate an underperforming cen-
22 ter for cause during the performance period.

23 (4) NO FUNDING FOR CONSTRUCTION.—No
24 funding provided pursuant to this subsection may be

1 used for the construction of new buildings or facili-
2 ties.

3 (b) BASIC ENERGY SCIENCES USER FACILITIES.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall carry out
5 a program for the development, construction, oper-
6 ation, and maintenance of national user facilities.

7 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—To the maximum extent
8 practicable, the national user facilities developed,
9 constructed, operated, or maintained under para-
10 graph (1) shall serve the needs of the Department,
11 industry, the academic community, and other rel-
12 evant entities to create and examine materials and
13 chemical processes for the purpose of improving the
14 competitiveness of the United States.

15 (3) INCLUDED FACILITIES.—The national user
16 facilities developed, constructed, operated, or main-
17 tained under paragraph (1) shall include—

18 (A) x-ray light sources;

19 (B) neutron sources;

20 (C) nanoscale science research centers; and

21 (D) such other facilities as the Director
22 considers appropriate, consistent with section
23 209 of the Department of Energy Organization
24 Act (42 U.S.C. 7139).

1 (c) ACCELERATOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOP-
2 MENT.—The Director shall carry out research and devel-
3 opment on advanced accelerator and storage ring tech-
4 nologies relevant to the development of basic energy
5 sciences user facilities, in consultation with the High En-
6 ergy Physics and Nuclear Physics programs of the Office
7 of Science.

8 (d) SOLAR FUELS RESEARCH INITIATIVE.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 973 of the Energy
10 Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16313) is amended
11 to read as follows:

12 **“SEC. 973. SOLAR FUELS RESEARCH INITIATIVE.**

13 “(a) INITIATIVE.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
15 out a research initiative, to be known as the ‘Solar
16 Fuels Research Initiative’ (referred to in this section
17 as the ‘Initiative’) to expand theoretical and funda-
18 mental knowledge of photochemistry, electro-
19 chemistry, biochemistry, and materials science useful
20 for the practical development of experimental sys-
21 tems to convert solar energy to chemical energy.

22 “(2) LEVERAGING.—In carrying out programs
23 and activities under the Initiative, the Secretary
24 shall leverage expertise and resources from—

1 “(A) the Basic Energy Sciences Program
2 and the Biological and Environmental Research
3 Program of the Office of Science; and

4 “(B) the Office of Energy Efficiency and
5 Renewable Energy.

6 “(3) TEAMS.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the
8 Initiative, the Secretary shall organize activities
9 among multidisciplinary teams to leverage, to
10 the maximum extent practicable, expertise from
11 the National Laboratories, institutions of higher
12 education, and the private sector.

13 “(B) GOALS.—The multidisciplinary teams
14 described in subparagraph (A) shall pursue ag-
15 gressive, milestone-driven, basic research goals.

16 “(C) RESOURCES.—The Secretary shall
17 provide sufficient resources to the multidisci-
18 plinary teams described in subparagraph (A) to
19 achieve the goals described in subparagraph (B)
20 over a period of time to be determined by the
21 Secretary.

22 “(4) ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary
23 may organize additional activities under this sub-
24 section through Energy Frontier Research Centers,

1 Energy Innovation Hubs, or other organizational
2 structures.

3 “(b) ARTIFICIAL PHOTOSYNTHESIS.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
5 out under the Initiative a program to support re-
6 search needed to bridge scientific barriers to, and
7 discover knowledge relevant to, artificial photosyn-
8 thetic systems.

9 “(2) ACTIVITIES.—As part of the program de-
10 scribed in paragraph (1)—

11 “(A) the Director of the Office of Basic
12 Energy Sciences shall support basic research to
13 pursue distinct lines of scientific inquiry, in-
14 cluding—

15 “(i) photoinduced production of hy-
16 drogen and oxygen from water; and

17 “(ii) the sustainable photoinduced re-
18 duction of carbon dioxide to fuel products
19 including hydrocarbons, alcohols, carbon
20 monoxide, and natural gas; and

21 “(B) the Assistant Secretary for Energy
22 Efficiency and Renewable Energy shall support
23 translational research, development, and valida-
24 tion of physical concepts developed under the
25 program.

1 “(3) STANDARD OF REVIEW.—The Secretary
2 shall review activities carried out under the program
3 described in paragraph (1) to determine the achieve-
4 ment of technical milestones.

5 “(4) PROHIBITION.—No funds allocated to the
6 program described in paragraph (1) may be obli-
7 gated or expended for commercial application of en-
8 ergy technology.

9 “(c) BIOCHEMISTRY, REPLICATION OF NATURAL
10 PHOTOSYNTHESIS, AND RELATED PROCESSES.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
12 out under the Initiative a program to support re-
13 search needed to replicate natural photosynthetic
14 processes by use of artificial photosynthetic compo-
15 nents and materials.

16 “(2) ACTIVITIES.—As part of the program de-
17 scribed in paragraph (1)—

18 “(A) the Director of the Office of Basic
19 Energy Sciences shall support basic research to
20 expand fundamental knowledge to replicate nat-
21 ural synthesis processes, including—

22 “(i) the photoinduced reduction of
23 dinitrogen to ammonia;

24 “(ii) the absorption of carbon dioxide
25 from ambient air;

1 “(iii) molecular-based charge separa-
2 tion and storage;

3 “(iv) photoinitiated electron transfer;
4 and

5 “(v) catalysis in biological or bio-
6 mimetic systems;

7 “(B) the Associate Director of Biological
8 and Environmental Research shall support sys-
9 tems biology and genomics approaches to un-
10 derstand genetic and physiological pathways
11 connected to photosynthetic mechanisms; and

12 “(C) the Assistant Secretary for Energy
13 Efficiency and Renewable Energy shall support
14 translational research, development, and valida-
15 tion of physical concepts developed under the
16 program.

17 “(3) STANDARD OF REVIEW.—The Secretary
18 shall review activities carried out under the program
19 described in paragraph (1) to determine the achieve-
20 ment of technical milestones.

21 “(4) PROHIBITION.—No funds allocated to the
22 program described in paragraph (1) may be obli-
23 gated or expended for commercial application of en-
24 ergy technology.”.

1 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of
2 contents for the Energy Policy Act of 2005 is
3 amended by striking the item relating to section 973
4 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 973. Solar fuels research initiative.”

5 (e) ELECTRICITY STORAGE RESEARCH INITIATIVE.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 975 of the Energy
7 Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16315) is amended
8 to read as follows:

9 **“SEC. 975. ELECTRICITY STORAGE RESEARCH INITIATIVE.**

10 “(a) INITIATIVE.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
12 out a research initiative, to be known as the ‘Elec-
13 tricity Storage Research Initiative’ (referred to in
14 this section as the ‘Initiative’)—

15 “(A) to expand theoretical and funda-
16 mental knowledge to control, store, and con-
17 vert—

18 “(i) electrical energy to chemical en-
19 ergy; and

20 “(ii) chemical energy to electrical en-
21 ergy; and

22 “(B) to support scientific inquiry into the
23 practical understanding of chemical and phys-
24 ical processes that occur within systems involv-

1 ing crystalline and amorphous solids, polymers,
2 and organic and aqueous liquids.

3 “(2) LEVERAGING.—In carrying out programs
4 and activities under the Initiative, the Secretary
5 shall leverage expertise and resources from—

6 “(A) the Basic Energy Sciences Program,
7 the Advanced Scientific Computing Research
8 Program, and the Biological and Environmental
9 Research Program of the Office of Science; and

10 “(B) the Office of Energy Efficiency and
11 Renewable Energy.

12 “(3) TEAMS.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the
14 Initiative, the Secretary shall organize activities
15 among multidisciplinary teams to leverage, to
16 the maximum extent practicable, expertise from
17 the National Laboratories, institutions of higher
18 education, and the private sector.

19 “(B) GOALS.—The multidisciplinary teams
20 described in subparagraph (A) shall pursue ag-
21 gressive, milestone-driven, basic research goals.

22 “(C) RESOURCES.—The Secretary shall
23 provide sufficient resources to the multidisci-
24 plinary teams described in subparagraph (A) to
25 achieve the goals described in subparagraph (B)

1 over a period of time to be determined by the
2 Secretary.

3 “(4) ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary
4 may organize additional activities under this sub-
5 section through Energy Frontier Research Centers,
6 Energy Innovation Hubs, or other organizational
7 structures.

8 “(b) MULTIVALENT SYSTEMS.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
10 out under the Initiative a program to support re-
11 search needed to bridge scientific barriers to, and
12 discover knowledge relevant to, multivalent ion mate-
13 rials in electric energy storage systems.

14 “(2) ACTIVITIES.—As part of the program de-
15 scribed in paragraph (1)—

16 “(A) the Director of the Office of Basic
17 Energy Sciences shall investigate electro-
18 chemical properties and the dynamics of mate-
19 rials, including charge transfer phenomena and
20 mass transport in materials; and

21 “(B) the Assistant Secretary for Energy
22 Efficiency and Renewable Energy shall support
23 translational research, development, and valida-
24 tion of physical concepts developed under the
25 program.

1 “(3) STANDARD OF REVIEW.—The Secretary
2 shall review activities carried out under the program
3 described in paragraph (1) to determine the achieve-
4 ment of technical milestones.

5 “(4) PROHIBITION.—No funds allocated to the
6 program described in paragraph (1) may be obli-
7 gated or expended for commercial application of en-
8 ergy technology.

9 “(c) ELECTROCHEMISTRY MODELING AND SIMULA-
10 TION.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
12 out under the Initiative a program to support re-
13 search to model and simulate organic electrolytes,
14 including the static and dynamic electrochemical be-
15 havior and phenomena of organic electrolytes at the
16 molecular and atomic level in monovalent and multi-
17 valent systems.

18 “(2) ACTIVITIES.—As part of the program de-
19 scribed in paragraph (1)—

20 “(A) the Director of the Office of Basic
21 Energy Sciences, in coordination with the Asso-
22 ciate Director of Advanced Scientific Com-
23 puting Research, shall support the development
24 of high performance computational tools
25 through a joint development process to maxi-

1 mize the effectiveness of current and projected
2 high performance computing systems; and

3 “(B) the Assistant Secretary for Energy
4 Efficiency and Renewable Energy shall support
5 translational research, development, and valida-
6 tion of physical concepts developed under the
7 program.

8 “(3) STANDARD OF REVIEW.—The Secretary
9 shall review activities carried out under the program
10 described in paragraph (1) to determine the achieve-
11 ment of technical milestones.

12 “(4) PROHIBITION.—No funds allocated to the
13 program described in paragraph (1) may be obli-
14 gated or expended for commercial application of en-
15 ergy technology.

16 “(d) MESOSCALE ELECTROCHEMISTRY.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
18 out under the Initiative a program to support re-
19 search needed to reveal electrochemistry in confined
20 mesoscale spaces, including scientific discoveries rel-
21 evant to—

22 “(A) bio-electrochemistry and electro-
23 chemical energy conversion and storage in con-
24 fined spaces; and

1 “(B) the dynamics of the phenomena de-
2 scribed in subparagraph (A).

3 “(2) ACTIVITIES.—As part of the program de-
4 scribed in paragraph (1)—

5 “(A) the Director of the Office of Basic
6 Energy Sciences and the Associate Director of
7 Biological and Environmental Research shall in-
8 vestigate phenomena of mesoscale electro-
9 chemical confinement for the purpose of repli-
10 cating and controlling new electrochemical be-
11 havior; and

12 “(B) the Assistant Secretary for Energy
13 Efficiency and Renewable Energy shall support
14 translational research, development, and valida-
15 tion of physical concepts developed under the
16 program.

17 “(3) STANDARD OF REVIEW.—The Secretary
18 shall review activities carried out under the program
19 described in paragraph (1) to determine the achieve-
20 ment of technical milestones.

21 “(4) PROHIBITION.—No funds allocated to the
22 program described in paragraph (1) may be obli-
23 gated or expended for commercial application of en-
24 ergy technology.”.

1 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of
2 contents for the Energy Policy Act of 2005 is
3 amended by striking the item relating to section 975
4 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 975. Electricity storage research initiative.”.

5 **SEC. 304. ADVANCED SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING RESEARCH.**

6 (a) AMERICAN SUPER COMPUTING LEADERSHIP.—

7 (1) RENAMING OF ACT.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of the De-
9 partment of Energy High-End Computing Revi-
10 talization Act of 2004 (15 U.S.C. 5501 note;
11 Public Law 108–423) is amended by striking
12 “Department of Energy High-End Computing
13 Revitalization Act of 2004” and inserting
14 “American Super Computing Leadership Act of
15 2017”.

16 (B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
17 976(a)(1) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42
18 U.S.C. 16316(1)) is amended by striking “De-
19 partment of Energy High-End Computing Revi-
20 talization Act of 2004” and inserting “Amer-
21 ican Super Computing Leadership Act of
22 2017”.

23 (2) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2 of the American
24 Super Computing Leadership Act of 2017 (15
25 U.S.C. 5541) is amended—

1 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (2)
2 through (5) as paragraphs (3) through (6), re-
3 spectively;

4 (B) by striking paragraph (1) and insert-
5 ing the following:

6 “(1) DEPARTMENT.—The term ‘Department’
7 means the Department of Energy.

8 “(2) EXASCALE COMPUTING.—The term
9 ‘exascale computing’ means computing through the
10 use of a computing machine that performs near or
11 above 10 to the 18th power operations per second.”;
12 and

13 (C) in paragraph (6) (as redesignated by
14 subparagraph (A)), by striking “, acting
15 through the Director of the Office of Science of
16 the Department of Energy”.

17 (3) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY HIGH-END COM-
18 PUTING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.—
19 Section 3 of the American Super Computing Leader-
20 ship Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 5542) is amended—

21 (A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “pro-
22 gram” and inserting “coordinated program
23 across the Department”;

1 (B) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “,
2 which may” and all that follows through “archi-
3 tectures”; and

4 (C) by striking subsection (d) and insert-
5 ing the following:

6 “(d) EXASCALE COMPUTING PROGRAM.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall con-
8 duct a research program (referred to in this sub-
9 section as the ‘Program’) for exascale computing, in-
10 cluding the development of 2 or more exascale com-
11 puting machine architectures, to promote the mis-
12 sions of the Department.

13 “(2) EXECUTION.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the
15 Program, the Secretary shall—

16 “(i) establish 2 or more National Lab-
17 oratory partnerships with industry part-
18 ners and institutions of higher education
19 for the research and development of 2 or
20 more exascale computing architectures
21 across all applicable organizations of the
22 Department;

23 “(ii) conduct mission-related codesign
24 activities in developing the exascale com-
25 puting architectures under clause (i);

1 “(iii) develop such advancements in
2 hardware and software technology as are
3 required to fully realize the potential of an
4 exascale production system in addressing
5 Department target applications and solving
6 scientific problems involving predictive
7 modeling and simulation and large scale
8 data analytics and management;

9 “(iv) explore the use of exascale com-
10 puting technologies to advance a broad
11 range of science and engineering; and

12 “(v) provide, as appropriate, on a
13 competitive, merit-reviewed basis, access
14 for researchers in industries in the United
15 States, institutions of higher education,
16 National Laboratories, and other Federal
17 agencies to the exascale computing systems
18 developed pursuant to clause (i).

19 “(B) SELECTION OF PARTNERS.—The Sec-
20 retary shall select the partnerships with the
21 computing facilities of the Department under
22 subparagraph (A) through a competitive, peer-
23 review process.

24 “(3) CODESIGN AND APPLICATION DEVELOP-
25 MENT.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

2 “(i) carry out the Program through
3 an integration of applications, computer
4 science, applied mathematics, and com-
5 puter hardware architecture using the
6 partnerships established pursuant to para-
7 graph (2) to ensure that, to the maximum
8 extent practicable, 2 or more exascale com-
9 puting machine architectures are capable
10 of solving Department target applications
11 and broader scientific problems, including
12 predictive modeling and simulation and
13 large scale data analytics and manage-
14 ment; and

15 “(ii) conduct outreach programs to in-
16 crease the readiness for the use of such
17 platforms by domestic industries, including
18 manufacturers.

19 “(B) REPORT.—The Secretary shall sub-
20 mit to Congress a report describing—

21 “(i) how the integration under sub-
22 paragraph (A) is furthering application
23 science data and computational workloads
24 across application interests, including na-
25 tional security, material science, physical

1 science, cybersecurity, biological science,
2 the Materials Genome and BRAIN Initia-
3 tives of the President, advanced manufac-
4 turing, and the national electric grid; and

5 “(ii) the roles and responsibilities of
6 National Laboratories and industry, in-
7 cluding the definition of the roles and re-
8 sponsibilities within the Department to en-
9 sure an integrated program across the De-
10 partment.

11 “(4) PROJECT REVIEW.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The exascale architec-
13 tures developed pursuant to partnerships estab-
14 lished pursuant to paragraph (2) shall be re-
15 viewed through a project review process.

16 “(B) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days
17 after the date of enactment of this subsection,
18 the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report
19 on—

20 “(i) the results of the review con-
21 ducted under subparagraph (A); and

22 “(ii) the coordination and manage-
23 ment of the Program to ensure an inte-
24 grated research program across the De-
25 partment.

1 “(5) ANNUAL REPORTS.—At the time of the
2 budget submission of the Department for each fiscal
3 year, the Secretary, in consultation with the mem-
4 bers of the partnerships established pursuant to
5 paragraph (2), shall submit to Congress a report
6 that describes funding for the Program as a whole
7 by functional element of the Department and critical
8 milestones.”.

9 (b) HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING AND NET-
10 WORKING RESEARCH.—The Director shall support re-
11 search in high-performance computing and networking rel-
12 evant to energy applications, including modeling, simula-
13 tion, and advanced data analytics for basic and applied
14 energy research programs carried out by the Secretary.

15 (c) APPLIED MATHEMATICS AND SOFTWARE DEVEL-
16 OPMENT FOR HIGH-END COMPUTING SYSTEMS.—The Di-
17 rector shall carry out activities to develop, test, and sup-
18 port—

19 (1) mathematics, models, and algorithms for
20 complex systems and programming environments;
21 and

22 (2) tools, languages, and operating systems for
23 high-end computing systems (as defined in section 2
24 of the American Super Computing Leadership Act of
25 2017 (15 U.S.C. 5541)).

1 **SEC. 305. HIGH-ENERGY PHYSICS.**

2 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
3 gress that—

4 (1) the Director should incorporate the findings
5 and recommendations of the report of the Particle
6 Physics Project Prioritization Panel entitled “Build-
7 ing for Discovery: Strategic Plan for U.S. Particle
8 Physics in the Global Context” into the planning
9 process of the Department; and

10 (2) the nations that lead in particle physics by
11 hosting international teams dedicated to a common
12 scientific goal attract the world’s best talent and in-
13 spire future generations of physicists and tech-
14 nologists.

15 (b) INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION.—The Direc-
16 tor, as practicable and in coordination with other appro-
17 priate Federal agencies as necessary, shall ensure the ac-
18 cess of United States researchers to the most advanced
19 accelerator facilities and research capabilities in the world,
20 including the Large Hadron Collider.

21 (c) NEUTRINO RESEARCH.—The Director shall carry
22 out research activities on rare decay processes and the na-
23 ture of the neutrino, which may include collaborations
24 with the National Science Foundation or international col-
25 laborations.

1 (d) DARK ENERGY AND DARK MATTER RE-
2 SEARCH.—The Director shall carry out research activities
3 on the nature of dark energy and dark matter, which may
4 include collaborations with the National Aeronautics and
5 Space Administration or the National Science Foundation;
6 or international collaborations.

7 **SEC. 306. BIOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH.**

8 (a) BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS.—The Director shall carry
9 out research and development activities in fundamental,
10 structural, computational, and systems biology to increase
11 systems-level understanding of the complex biological sys-
12 tems, which may include activities—

13 (1) to accelerate breakthroughs and new knowl-
14 edge that would enable the cost-effective, sustainable
15 production of—

16 (A) biomass-based liquid transportation
17 fuels;

18 (B) bioenergy; and

19 (C) biobased materials;

20 (2) to improve understanding of the global car-
21 bon cycle, including processes for removing carbon
22 dioxide from the atmosphere, through photosynthesis
23 and other biological processes, for sequestration and
24 storage; and

1 (3) to understand the biological mechanisms
2 used to transform, immobilize, or remove contami-
3 nants from subsurface environments.

4 (b) **LIMITATION FOR RESEARCH FUNDS.**—The Di-
5 rector shall not approve new climate science-related initia-
6 tives without making a determination that such work is
7 well-coordinated with any relevant work carried out by
8 other Federal agencies.

9 (c) **LOW-DOSE RADIATION RESEARCH PROGRAM.**—

10 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director shall carry out
11 a research program on low-dose radiation.

12 (2) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of the program is
13 to enhance the scientific understanding of, and re-
14 duce uncertainties associated with, the effects of ex-
15 posure to low-dose radiation to inform improved
16 risk-management methods.

17 **SEC. 307. FUSION ENERGY.**

18 (a) **FUSION MATERIALS RESEARCH AND DEVELOP-**
19 **MENT.**—As part of the activities authorized in section 978
20 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16318)—

21 (1) the Director, in coordination with the As-
22 sistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy of the Depart-
23 ment, shall carry out research and development ac-
24 tivities to identify, characterize, and demonstrate

1 materials that can endure the neutron, plasma, and
2 heat fluxes expected in a fusion power system; and

3 (2) the Director shall provide an assessment
4 of—

5 (A) the need for 1 or more facilities that
6 can examine and test potential fusion and next
7 generation fission materials and other enabling
8 technologies relevant to the development of fu-
9 sion power; and

10 (B) whether a single new facility that sub-
11 stantially addresses magnetic fusion and next
12 generation fission materials research needs is
13 feasible, in conjunction with the expected capa-
14 bilities of facilities operational as of the date of
15 enactment of this Act.

16 (b) TOKAMAK RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—The
17 Director shall support research and development activities
18 and facility operations to optimize the tokamak approach
19 to fusion energy.

20 (c) INERTIAL FUSION ENERGY RESEARCH AND DE-
21 VELOPMENT.—The Director shall support research and
22 development activities for inertial fusion for energy appli-
23 cations.

24 (d) ALTERNATIVE AND ENABLING CONCEPTS.—The
25 Director shall support research and development activities

1 and facility operations at institutions of higher education,
2 National Laboratories, and private facilities in the United
3 States for a portfolio of alternative and enabling fusion
4 energy concepts that may provide solutions to significant
5 challenges to the establishment of a commercial magnetic
6 fusion power plant, prioritized based on the ability of the
7 United States to play a leadership role in the international
8 fusion research community.

9 (e) COORDINATION WITH ARPA-E.—The Director
10 shall coordinate with the Director of the Advanced Re-
11 search Projects Agency-Energy (referred to in this sub-
12 section as “ARPA-E”) to—

13 (1) assess the potential for any fusion energy
14 project supported by ARPA-E to represent a prom-
15 ising approach to a commercially viable fusion power
16 plant;

17 (2) determine whether the results of any fusion
18 energy project supported by ARPA-E merit the sup-
19 port of follow-on research activities carried out by
20 the Office of Science; and

21 (3) avoid the unintentional duplication of activi-
22 ties.

23 (f) FAIRNESS IN COMPETITION FOR SOLICITATIONS
24 FOR INTERNATIONAL PROJECT ACTIVITIES.—Section 33
25 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2053) is

1 amended by inserting before the first sentence the fol-
2 lowing: “In this section, with respect to international re-
3 search projects, the term ‘private facilities or laboratories’
4 means facilities or laboratories located in the United
5 States.”.

6 (g) IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITIES.—

7 (1) REPORT.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years
9 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
10 retary shall submit to Congress a report on the
11 fusion energy research and development activi-
12 ties that the Department proposes to carry out
13 over the 10-year period following the date of
14 the report under not fewer than 3 realistic
15 budget scenarios, including a scenario based on
16 3-percent annual growth in the non-ITER por-
17 tion of the budget for fusion energy research
18 and development activities.

19 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The report required
20 under subparagraph (A) shall—

21 (i) identify specific areas of fusion en-
22 ergy research and enabling technology de-
23 velopment in which the United States can
24 and should establish or solidify a lead in

1 the global fusion energy development ef-
2 fort;

3 (ii) identify priorities for initiation of
4 facility construction and facility decommis-
5 sioning under each of the 3 budget sce-
6 narios described in subparagraph (A); and

7 (iii) assess the ability of the fusion
8 workforce of the United States to carry out
9 the activities identified under clauses (i)
10 and (ii), including the adequacy of pro-
11 grams at institutions of higher education
12 in the United States to train the leaders
13 and workers of the next generation of fu-
14 sion energy researchers.

15 (2) PROCESS.—In order to develop the report
16 required under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary shall
17 leverage best practices and lessons learned from the
18 process used to develop the most recent report of the
19 Particle Physics Project Prioritization Panel of the
20 High Energy Physics Advisory Panel.

21 (3) REQUIREMENT.—No member of the Fusion
22 Energy Sciences Advisory Committee shall be ex-
23 cluded from participating in developing or voting on
24 final approval of the report required under para-
25 graph (1)(A).

1 **SEC. 308. NUCLEAR PHYSICS.**

2 (a) ISOTOPE DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION FOR
3 RESEARCH APPLICATIONS.—The Director—

4 (1) may carry out a program for the production
5 of isotopes, including the development of techniques
6 to produce isotopes, that the Secretary determines
7 are needed for research, medical, industrial, or re-
8 lated purposes; and

9 (2) shall ensure that isotope production activi-
10 ties carried out under the program under this para-
11 graph do not compete with private industry unless
12 the Director determines that critical national inter-
13 ests require the involvement of the Federal Govern-
14 ment.

15 (b) RENAMING OF THE RARE ISOTOPE ACCEL-
16 ERATOR.—Section 981 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005
17 (42 U.S.C. 16321) is amended—

18 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**RARE**
19 **ISOTOPE ACCELERATOR**” and inserting “**FACIL-**
20 **ITY FOR RARE ISOTOPE BEAMS**”; and

21 (2) by striking “Rare Isotope Accelerator” each
22 place it appears and inserting “Facility for Rare Iso-
23 tope Beams”.

1 **SEC. 309. SCIENCE LABORATORIES INFRASTRUCTURE PRO-**
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall carry out a
4 program to improve the safety, efficiency, and mission
5 readiness of infrastructure at laboratories of the Office of
6 Science.

7 (b) INCLUSIONS.—The program under subsection (a)
8 shall include projects—

9 (1) to renovate or replace space that does not
10 meet research needs;

11 (2) to replace facilities that are no longer cost
12 effective to renovate or operate;

13 (3) to modernize utility systems to prevent fail-
14 ures and ensure efficiency;

15 (4) to remove excess facilities to allow safe and
16 efficient operations; and

17 (5) to construct modern facilities to conduct ad-
18 vanced research in controlled environmental condi-
19 tions.

20 **TITLE IV—NUCLEAR ENERGY**
21 **INNOVATION CAPABILITIES**

22 **SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.**

23 This title may be cited as the “Nuclear Energy Inno-
24 vation Capabilities Act”.

1 **SEC. 402. NUCLEAR ENERGY INNOVATION CAPABILITIES.**

2 (a) NUCLEAR ENERGY.—Section 951 of the Energy
3 Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16271) is amended to read
4 as follows:

5 **“SEC. 951. NUCLEAR ENERGY.**

6 “(a) MISSION.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
8 out programs of civilian nuclear research, develop-
9 ment, demonstration, and commercial application,
10 including activities under this subtitle.

11 “(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—The programs carried
12 out under paragraph (1) shall take into consider-
13 ation the following objectives:

14 “(A) Providing research infrastructure to
15 promote scientific progress and enable users
16 from academia, the National Laboratories, and
17 the private sector to make scientific discoveries
18 relevant for nuclear, chemical, and materials
19 science engineering.

20 “(B) Maintaining nuclear energy research
21 and development programs at the National
22 Laboratories and institutions of higher edu-
23 cation, including infrastructure at the National
24 Laboratories and institutions of higher edu-
25 cation.

1 “(C) Providing the technical means to re-
2 duce the likelihood of nuclear proliferation.

3 “(D) Increasing confidence margins for
4 public safety of nuclear energy systems.

5 “(E) Reducing the environmental impact
6 of activities relating to nuclear energy.

7 “(F) Supporting technology transfer from
8 the National Laboratories to the private sector.

9 “(G) Enabling the private sector to part-
10 ner with the National Laboratories to dem-
11 onstrate novel reactor concepts for the purpose
12 of resolving technical uncertainty associated
13 with the objectives described in subparagraphs
14 (A) through (F).

15 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this subtitle:

16 “(1) ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR.—The
17 term ‘advanced nuclear reactor’ means—

18 “(A) a nuclear fission reactor with signifi-
19 cant improvements over the most recent genera-
20 tion of nuclear fission reactors, which may in-
21 clude—

22 “(i) inherent safety features;

23 “(ii) lower waste yields;

24 “(iii) greater fuel utilization;

25 “(iv) superior reliability;

1 “(v) resistance to proliferation;

2 “(vi) increased thermal efficiency; and

3 “(vii) the ability to integrate into elec-

4 tric and nonelectric applications; or

5 “(B) a nuclear fusion reactor.

6 “(2) COMMISSION.—The term ‘Commission’

7 means the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

8 “(3) FAST NEUTRON.—The term ‘fast neutron’

9 means a neutron with kinetic energy above 100

10 kiloelectron volts.

11 “(4) NATIONAL LABORATORY.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in

13 subparagraph (B), the term ‘National Labora-

14 tory’ has the meaning given the term in section

15 2.

16 “(B) LIMITATION.—With respect to the

17 Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, the

18 Los Alamos National Laboratory, and the

19 Sandia National Laboratories, the term ‘Na-

20 tional Laboratory’ means only the civilian ac-

21 tivities of the laboratory.

22 “(5) NEUTRON FLUX.—The term ‘neutron flux’

23 means the intensity of neutron radiation measured

24 as a rate of flow of neutrons applied over an area.

1 “(6) NEUTRON SOURCE.—The term ‘neutron
2 source’ means a research machine that provides neu-
3 tron irradiation services for—

4 “(A) research on materials sciences and
5 nuclear physics; and

6 “(B) testing of advanced materials, nuclear
7 fuels, and other related components for reactor
8 systems.”.

9 (b) NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH PROGRAMS.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 952 of the Energy
11 Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16272) is amended—

12 (A) by striking subsection (c); and

13 (B) by redesignating subsections (d) and
14 (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively.

15 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
16 641(b)(1) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42
17 U.S.C. 16021(b)(1)) is amended by striking “section
18 942(d)” and inserting “section 952(c)”.

19 (c) ADVANCED FUEL CYCLE INITIATIVE.—Section
20 953(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C.
21 16273(a)) is amended by striking “, acting through the
22 Director of the Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and
23 Technology,”.

24 (d) UNIVERSITY NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND ENGINEER-
25 ING SUPPORT.—Section 954(d)(4) of the Energy Policy

1 Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16274(d)(4)) is amended by strik-
2 ing “as part of a taking into consideration effort that em-
3 phasizes” and inserting “that emphasize”.

4 (e) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY CIVILIAN NUCLEAR
5 INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES.—Section 955 of the
6 Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16275) is amend-
7 ed—

8 (1) by striking subsections (c) and (d); and
9 (2) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(c) VERSATILE NEUTRON SOURCE.—

11 “(1) MISSION NEED.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than De-
13 cember 31, 2017, the Secretary shall determine
14 the mission need for a versatile reactor-based
15 fast neutron source, which shall operate as a
16 national user facility.

17 “(B) CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED.—In car-
18 rying out subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall
19 consult with the private sector, institutions of
20 higher education, the National Laboratories,
21 and relevant Federal agencies to ensure that
22 the user facility described in subparagraph (A)
23 will meet the research needs of the largest prac-
24 ticable majority of prospective users.

1 “(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—As soon as practicable
2 after determining the mission need under paragraph
3 (1)(A), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate
4 committees of Congress a detailed plan for the es-
5 tablishment of the user facility.

6 “(3) FACILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

7 “(A) CAPABILITIES.—The Secretary shall
8 ensure that the user facility will provide, at a
9 minimum, the following capabilities:

10 “(i) Fast neutron spectrum irradiation
11 capability.

12 “(ii) Capacity for upgrades to accom-
13 modate new or expanded research needs.

14 “(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out
15 the plan submitted under paragraph (2), the
16 Secretary shall consider the following:

17 “(i) Capabilities that support experi-
18 mental high-temperature testing.

19 “(ii) Providing a source of fast neu-
20 trons at a neutron flux, higher than that
21 at which current research facilities operate,
22 sufficient to enable research for an optimal
23 base of prospective users.

1 “(iii) Maximizing irradiation flexibility
2 and irradiation volume to accommodate as
3 many concurrent users as possible.

4 “(iv) Capabilities for irradiation with
5 neutrons of a lower energy spectrum.

6 “(v) Multiple loops for fuels and ma-
7 terials testing in different coolants.

8 “(vi) Additional pre-irradiation and
9 post-irradiation examination capabilities.

10 “(vii) Lifetime operating costs and
11 lifecycle costs.

12 “(4) DEADLINE FOR ESTABLISHMENT.—The
13 Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable,
14 complete construction of, and approve the start of
15 operations for, the user facility by not later than De-
16 cember 31, 2025.

17 “(5) REPORTING.—The Secretary shall include
18 in the annual budget request of the Department an
19 explanation for any delay in the progress of the De-
20 partment in completing the user facility by the dead-
21 line described in paragraph (4).

22 “(6) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall le-
23 verage the best practices for management, construc-
24 tion, and operation of national user facilities from
25 the Office of Science.”.

1 (f) SECURITY OF NUCLEAR FACILITIES.—Section
2 956 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16276)
3 is amended by striking “, acting through the Director of
4 the Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology,”.

5 (g) HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTATION AND SUP-
6 PORTIVE RESEARCH.—Section 957 of the Energy Policy
7 Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16277) is amended to read as
8 follows:

9 **“SEC. 957. HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTATION AND SUP-**
10 **PORTIVE RESEARCH.**

11 “(a) MODELING AND SIMULATION.—The Secretary
12 shall carry out a program to enhance the capabilities of
13 the United States to develop new reactor technologies
14 through high-performance computation modeling and sim-
15 ulation techniques.

16 “(b) COORDINATION.—In carrying out the program
17 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall coordinate with
18 relevant Federal agencies as described by the National
19 Strategic Computing Initiative established by Executive
20 Order 13702 (80 Fed. Reg. 46177 (July 29, 2015)), while
21 taking into account the following objectives:

22 “(1) Using expertise from the private sector, in-
23 stitutions of higher education, and the National
24 Laboratories to develop computational software and
25 capabilities that prospective users may access to ac-

1 celerate research and development of advanced nu-
2 clear reactor systems and reactor systems for space
3 exploration.

4 “(2) Developing computational tools to simulate
5 and predict nuclear phenomena that may be vali-
6 dated through physical experimentation.

7 “(3) Increasing the utility of the research infra-
8 structure of the Department by coordinating with
9 the Advanced Scientific Computing Research pro-
10 gram within the Office of Science.

11 “(4) Leveraging experience from the Energy In-
12 novation Hub for Modeling and Simulation.

13 “(5) Ensuring that new experimental and com-
14 putational tools are accessible to relevant research
15 communities, including private sector entities en-
16 gaged in nuclear energy technology development.

17 “(c) SUPPORTIVE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—The Sec-
18 retary shall consider support for additional research activi-
19 ties to maximize the utility of the research facilities of the
20 Department, including physical processes—

21 “(1) to simulate degradation of materials and
22 behavior of fuel forms; and

23 “(2) for validation of computational tools.”.

24 (h) ENABLING NUCLEAR ENERGY INNOVATION.—
25 Subtitle E of title IX of the Energy Policy Act of 2005

1 (42 U.S.C. 16271 et seq.) is amended by adding at the
2 end the following:

3 **“SEC. 958. ENABLING NUCLEAR ENERGY INNOVATION.**

4 “(a) NATIONAL REACTOR INNOVATION CENTER.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized a pro-
6 gram to enable the testing and demonstration of re-
7 actor concepts to be proposed and funded by the pri-
8 vate sector.

9 “(2) PARTICIPATION.—Nothing in this section
10 shall prevent a private sector entity that has re-
11 ceived Federal grants from participating in this pro-
12 gram.

13 “(b) TECHNICAL EXPERTISE.—In carrying out the
14 program under subsection (a), the Secretary shall leverage
15 the technical expertise of relevant Federal agencies and
16 the National Laboratories in order to minimize the time
17 required to enable construction and operation of privately
18 funded experimental reactors at National Laboratories or
19 other Department-owned sites.

20 “(c) OBJECTIVES.—The reactors described in sub-
21 section (b) shall operate to meet the following objectives:

22 “(1) Enabling physical validation of advanced
23 nuclear reactor concepts.

24 “(2) Resolving technical uncertainty and in-
25 creasing practical knowledge relevant to safety, resil-

1 ience, security, and functionality of advanced nuclear
2 reactor concepts.

3 “(3) General research and development to im-
4 prove nascent technologies.

5 “(d) SHARING TECHNICAL EXPERTISE.—In carrying
6 out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary may
7 enter into a memorandum of understanding with the
8 Chairman of the Commission in order to share technical
9 expertise and knowledge through—

10 “(1) enabling the testing and demonstration of
11 advanced nuclear reactor concepts to be proposed
12 and funded by the private sector;

13 “(2) operating a database to store and share
14 data and knowledge relevant to nuclear science and
15 engineering between Federal agencies and the pri-
16 vate sector;

17 “(3) developing and testing electric and non-
18 electric integration and energy conversion systems
19 relevant to advanced nuclear reactors;

20 “(4) leveraging expertise from the Commission
21 with respect to safety analysis; and

22 “(5) enabling technical staff of the Commission
23 to actively observe and learn about technologies de-
24 veloped under the program.

1 “(e) AGENCY COORDINATION.—The Chairman of the
2 Commission and the Secretary shall enter into a memo-
3 randum of understanding regarding the following:

4 “(1) Ensuring that—

5 “(A) the Department has sufficient tech-
6 nical expertise to support the timely research,
7 development, demonstration, and commercial
8 application by the civilian nuclear industry of
9 safe and innovative advanced nuclear reactor
10 technology; and

11 “(B) the Commission has sufficient tech-
12 nical expertise to support the evaluation of ap-
13 plications for licenses, permits, and design cer-
14 tifications and other requests for regulatory ap-
15 proval for advanced nuclear reactors.

16 “(2) The use of computers and software codes
17 to calculate the behavior and performance of ad-
18 vanced nuclear reactors based on mathematical mod-
19 els of the physical behavior of advanced nuclear re-
20 actors.

21 “(3) Ensuring that—

22 “(A) the Department maintains and devel-
23 ops the facilities necessary to enable the timely
24 research, development, demonstration, and com-
25 mercial application by the civilian nuclear in-

1 dustry of safe and innovative reactor tech-
2 nology; and

3 “(B) the Commission has access to the fa-
4 cilities described in subparagraph (A), as need-
5 ed.

6 “(f) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
8 after the date of enactment of the Nuclear Energy
9 Innovation Capabilities Act of 2017, the Secretary,
10 in consultation with the National Laboratories, rel-
11 evant Federal agencies, and other stakeholders, shall
12 submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a
13 report assessing the capabilities of the Department
14 to authorize, host, and oversee privately funded ex-
15 perimental advanced nuclear reactors as described in
16 subsection (b).

17 “(2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under
18 paragraph (1) shall address—

19 “(A) the safety review and oversight capa-
20 bilities of the Department, including options to
21 leverage expertise from the Commission and the
22 National Laboratories;

23 “(B) options to regulate privately proposed
24 and funded experimental reactors hosted by the
25 Department;

1 “(C) potential sites capable of hosting pri-
2 vately funded experimental advanced nuclear re-
3 actors;

4 “(D) the efficacy of the available contrac-
5 tual mechanisms of the Department to partner
6 with the private sector and Federal agencies,
7 including cooperative research and development
8 agreements, strategic partnership projects, and
9 agreements for commercializing technology;

10 “(E) the liability of the Federal Govern-
11 ment with respect to the disposal of low-level
12 radioactive waste, spent nuclear fuel, or high-
13 level radioactive waste (as those terms are de-
14 fined in section 2 of the Nuclear Waste Policy
15 Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101));

16 “(F) the impact on the aggregate inven-
17 tory in the United States of low-level radio-
18 active waste, spent nuclear fuel, or high-level
19 radioactive waste (as those terms are defined in
20 section 2 of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of
21 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101));

22 “(G) potential cost structures relating to
23 physical security, decommissioning, liability,
24 and other long-term project costs; and

1 “(H) other challenges or considerations
2 identified by the Secretary.

3 “(3) UPDATES.—Once every 2 years, the Sec-
4 retary shall update relevant provisions of the report
5 submitted under paragraph (1) and submit to the
6 appropriate committees of Congress the update.

7 “(g) SAVINGS CLAUSES.—

8 “(1) LICENSING REQUIREMENT.—Nothing in
9 this section authorizes the Secretary or any person
10 to construct or operate a nuclear reactor for the pur-
11 pose of demonstrating the suitability for commercial
12 application of the nuclear reactor unless licensed by
13 the Commission in accordance with section 202 of
14 the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C.
15 5842).

16 “(2) FINANCIAL PROTECTION.—Any activity
17 carried out under this section that involves the risk
18 of public liability shall be subject to the financial
19 protection or indemnification requirements of section
20 170 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C.
21 2210) (commonly known as the ‘Price-Anderson
22 Act’).”.

23 (i) BUDGET PLAN.—Subtitle E of title IX of the En-
24 ergy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16271 et seq.) (as

1 amended by subsection (h)) is amended by adding at the
2 end the following:

3 **“SEC. 959. BUDGET PLAN.**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
5 date of enactment of the Nuclear Energy Innovation Ca-
6 pabilities Act of 2017, the Secretary shall submit to the
7 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Sen-
8 ate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
9 of the House of Representatives 2 alternative 10-year
10 budget plans for civilian nuclear energy research and de-
11 velopment by the Secretary, as described in subsections
12 (b) through (d).

13 “(b) BUDGET PLAN ALTERNATIVE 1.—One of the
14 budget plans submitted under subsection (a) shall assume
15 constant annual funding for 10 years at the appropriated
16 level for the civilian nuclear energy research and develop-
17 ment of the Department for fiscal year 2016.

18 “(c) BUDGET PLAN ALTERNATIVE 2.—One of the
19 budget plans submitted under subsection (a) shall be an
20 unconstrained budget.

21 “(d) INCLUSIONS.—Each alternative budget plan
22 submitted under subsection (a) shall include—

23 “(1) a prioritized list of the programs, projects,
24 and activities of the Department to best support the

1 development of advanced nuclear reactor tech-
2 nologies;

3 “(2) realistic budget requirements for the De-
4 partment to implement sections 955(c), 957, and
5 958; and

6 “(3) the justification of the Department for
7 continuing or terminating existing civilian nuclear
8 energy research and development programs.”.

9 (j) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The table of con-
10 tents for the Energy Policy Act of 2005 is amended by
11 striking the item relating to section 957 and inserting the
12 following:

“957. High-performance computation and supportive research.

“958. Enabling nuclear energy innovation.

“959. Budget plan.”.