

**Opening Statement of the Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce Markup
July 12, 2018**

This morning we will consider two bipartisan bills passed by the Subcommittee on Energy last month to address the development, competitiveness, and regulation of nuclear energy technologies.

These thoughtful proposals reflect the sense of urgency to begin resolving time-consuming and complex regulatory challenges for the licensing and developing new nuclear facilities and technologies.

H.R. 1320, the Nuclear Utilization of Keynote Energy, or “NUKE,” Act, is a bipartisan bill sponsored by Representatives Kinzinger and Doyle to increase transparency, predictability, and efficiency in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s regulatory regime. In doing so, ratepayers throughout the country, as well as the countless individuals and industry stakeholders who benefit from the application of nuclear technology, will realize the unique industrial, medical, and energy generation capabilities associated with our nuclear industry.

H.R. 6140, the Advanced Nuclear Fuel Availability Act is a bipartisan bill introduced by Representatives Flores and McNerney to lay the foundation for the development and deployment of new first-of-a-kind advanced nuclear reactor designs. This bill establishes a public-private partnership to assure nuclear fuel needed to power innovative reactors will be available when the first of those reactors is ready for deployment.

Passage of these two bipartisan bills is an important step towards reinvigorating our nation’s nuclear leadership and I look forward to their consideration by the Committee.