



third way
fresh thinking

The Honorable Representative Randy Hultgren
Member, House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
2455 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Representative Ed Perlmutter
Member, House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
1410 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

March 9, 2015

Dear Congressman Hultgren and Congressman Perlmutter,

We write in support of H.R. 1158, the Department of Energy (DOE) Laboratory Modernization and Technology Transfer Act of 2015. It is critical that the United States maximizes the ability of our national labs to partner with the private sector to develop and commercialize new energy technologies, particularly around advanced nuclear power. Your bipartisan bill, which has been approved by the Committee and sent to the House, will begin a vital assessment of the labs' capabilities and offer ways to get the best return on taxpayers' investment in energy innovation.

The world faces a profound paradox: ever-increasing global energy demand and the need to dramatically reduce carbon emissions. That's why Third Way strongly believes that the development of advanced nuclear reactors is critical. With dozens of reactor projects underway in the United States, this country has the opportunity to create enormous economic, national security, and environmental benefits if we can provide the right platform for private companies to develop and commercialize these advanced nuclear technologies. Public-private partnerships of the type envisioned in your legislation can help industry to transcend some of the technological and regulatory barriers it faces and bring this promising energy source to market.

We applaud your leadership in the sponsorship of this bill. There is pent-up demand in the private sector to work with the national labs to develop innovative advanced nuclear, carbon capture, and other energy solutions. H.R. 1158 is a very important step to ensure that happens. We look forward to supporting it as it moves through the House and Senate.

Sincerely,

Josh Freed

Vice President for the Clean Energy Program
Third Way

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