

November 23, 2022



The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader Schumer, and Leader McConnell:

We the undersigned non-governmental organizations, labor unions, and business organizations write to urge you to include up to \$2.1 billion in the Ukraine Supplemental to expand the domestic production capability for low enriched uranium (LEU), including high-assay low-enriched uranium (HALEU).

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has triggered a global re-alignment of energy supply chains. Russia had been a leading supplier of nuclear fuel and natural gas, but is no longer a viable source of either fuel for the U.S. or our allies.

Increasing U.S. domestic capacity to produce nuclear fuel would provide independence from Russian supplies and enable the domestic fuel sector to compete globally in a fast-emerging area of the energy economy. It would also help re-establish American global leadership in nuclear energy, helping us meet our climate, clean energy, national security, and economic goals. U.S. advanced reactor technologies could also help our allies become more independent of Russian natural gas for heating, electricity generation, and industrial uses. Several European countries are already exploring projects with American developers.

With broad bipartisan support, Congress has authorized and initially funded several programs focused on developing a U.S. nuclear HALEU fuel supply. Russia's invasion of Ukraine, however, has fundamentally altered the timelines necessary for transitioning away from Russian fuel. For example, approximately 20% of the enriched uranium used by our existing fleet is produced in Russia. In addition, Russia was the only commercial supplier of HALEU available. The two Advanced Reactor Demonstration Program (ARDP) Pathway 1 demonstrations, numerous other private demonstrations, and an Air Force micro-reactor pilot program all need HALEU to support project deployments before 2030. Both ARDP demonstrations are planning to begin operation in 2027-2028, so these project developers will require their first HALEU deliveries by 2024 and 2025. Without a reliable domestic source of LEU and HALEU, our existing fleet and the anticipated wave of new advanced reactors are at-risk.

The Ukraine Supplemental provides an opportunity for Congress to act quickly to provide up to \$2.1 billion for the Department of Energy to rapidly accelerate government and commercial efforts to expand domestic production capability for LEU, including HALEU.

We urge you to act quickly to enhance domestic nuclear fuel production and reduce our dependence on non-allied foreign sources, strengthen our energy position internationally, and create and preserve thousands of high-quality prevailing wage jobs.

Sincerely,

November 23, 2022

American Nuclear Society  
ARC Clean Technology  
Bipartisan Policy Center Action (BPC Action)  
The Breakthrough Institute  
BWX Technologies, Inc.  
Center for Climate and Energy Solutions  
Centrus Energy Corp.  
Clean Air Task Force  
ClearPath Action  
Climate Coalition  
Energy Northwest  
Framatome Inc.  
Generation Atomic  
Good Energy Collective  
Holtec International  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)  
Kairos Power LLC  
Lightbridge Corporation  
North America's Building Trades Unions  
The Nature Conservancy  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
Nuclear Innovation Alliance  
Nuclear New York  
Nucleation Capital  
Orano USA  
Oklo  
The Rainey Center Freedom Project  
TerraPower  
Third Way  
United Coalition for Advanced Nuclear Power-  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce Global Energy Institute  
Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium  
Westinghouse Electric Company  
X-Energy, LLC

Cc:

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
The Honorable Kay Granger  
The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
The Honorable Richard Shelby  
The Honorable Frank Pallone  
The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
The Honorable Joe Manchin  
The Honorable John Barrasso