



**United States Nuclear Industry Council**  
1317 F Street NW Washington, DC 20004

March 2, 2020

*By Electronic Mail*

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
Chair  
United States Senate Committee on  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Joe Manchin  
Ranking Member  
United States Senate Committee on  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senators Murkowski and Manchin:

The U.S. Nuclear Industry Council, as the leading business consortium advocate for advanced nuclear energy and American nuclear energy exports globally, is writing to advise you of our strong and vigorous support for the American Energy Innovation Act of 2020 (AEIA), S. 2657, and one of its goals of moving America toward first place on Nuclear Energy to provide this vital clean energy technology in the U.S. and around the world.

In our view, AEIA sends a strong signal globally that the U.S. is committed to a multi-faceted array of efforts to improve our production and use of energy – and that one of those is making the U.S. the nuclear energy capital of the world as well as propelling its leading-edge advanced nuclear energy technology in the \$3 trillion world marketplace. AEIA sounds a strong bipartisan message – particularly to Russia and China – that America’s world-class supply-chain will play a central role in providing clean, economical, reliable, flexible and passively-safe best-in-class technology worldwide. AEIA’s emphasis on bolstering the U.S. nuclear energy research, development and demonstration, advanced fuels development, and nuclear science support; as well as providing a fast reactor-based fast neutron source, demonstrating advanced nuclear reactors; developing a ten year nuclear energy strategic plan; addressing need for high-assay low-low enriched uranium; and supporting international nuclear energy cooperation is important. AEIA charts

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a compelling and comprehensive recipe for Team USA leadership in many areas, including global nuclear energy.

With 60 nuclear energy plants under construction internationally and another 100 plants on the horizon – and given nuclear energy’s pivotal role in environmental progress – it is our hope that the U.S. Senate overwhelmingly approves this important legislation, and works with the House of Representatives to see its enactment. This holistic prescription to buoy the U.S. energy system, including nuclear energy jobs, exports, clean energy leadership and national security, will reassert U.S. technology leadership across the globe.

We greatly appreciate your leadership and stewardship on behalf of AEIA.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Bud Albright  
President & CEO, U.S. Nuclear Industry Council  
&  
U.S. Under Secretary of Energy (2006-2008)



The Honorable Jeffrey S. Merrifield  
Partner, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP  
Chairman, NIC Advanced Reactor Task Force  
Commissioner, US Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission (1998-2007)