Legislative Opportunities to Advance Clean Energy

For too long, Republicans have lost control of the narrative on environmental issues. We must continue to oppose massive federal programs to solve problems that states, markets, and individuals can address on their own, but also propose meaningful policy, so we aren’t sidelined as the party of “no”.

The American people are with us. Despite recent headlines, top-down, heavy-handed environmental programs are neither supported by Republicans nor the majority of the American people. Poll after poll shows that Americans want solutions that deliver cleaner air and cleaner water. The majority of Republican voters support advancing clean energy too.

Now is the time for Congressional Republicans to lead on actionable, free-market solutions that provide a pathway to a cleaner environment while growing jobs and the economy, maintaining our energy independence and securing our nation.

Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions strongly supports the following legislative opportunities list of market-friendly pro-growth legislative initiatives which represent opportunities for Republican leadership on clean energy, efficiency, and conservation policies in the 116th Congress. These solutions are:

- **Committed to innovation** and positioning the U.S. as a global leader in clean energy
- **Leveling the playing-field** so that different energy technologies can compete; the government should not pick winners and losers
- **Outcome-oriented** to deliver measurable job growth, capital formation, improvements in local air and water quality, and reduced greenhouse gases
- **Fiscally responsible** and precise interventions that limit cost and growth in government
- **Empowering** individuals, states, and the marketplace to act, invest, and implement the cleanest, lowest-emitting technologies available

Current Policy Opportunities (116th Congress)

Confronting a Changing Climate

- **Green Real Deal Resolution**. A conservative response to the unrealistic Green New Deal Resolution. The Green Real Deal stresses the need for, and effectiveness of, free-market solutions to address carbon emissions and subsequently climate change. The resolution argues for an “all of the above” approach to clean energy generation while also highlighting the need for enhanced R&D, carbon capture and sequestration, and recycling programs.

- **Super Pollutants Act of 2019** Encourages the Federal Government to coordinate and optimize existing efforts to mitigate three of the most potent types of short-lived climate pollutants in the U.S. and abroad: methane, black carbon, and HFCs. The bill does this by supporting U.S-led efforts to
deploy proven technologies, mitigation activities, and emission reduction strategies in the U.S. and abroad. (*Environment & Public Works; Energy and Commerce, Foreign Affairs, Financial Service*)

- **S.2325** (Sens. Collins – ME; Murphy – CT)
- **H.R.4143** (Reps. Gaetz – FL, Peters – CA)

### Reducing Emissions Through Voluntary Reporting

- **Voluntary Federal Framework.** Establish a nationwide system for voluntary reporting carbon emissions, clean energy procurement, and energy efficiency will empower states, municipalities, and businesses to decrease emissions. The framework would increase investment in clean energy and improve transparency and accountability for the benefit of consumers and investors who want results, not greenwashing. Instead of superseding the free market, federal policymakers can build on the achievements of state REC programs and momentum inside the private sector to reduce emissions by creating a voluntary system that facilitates a “race to the top” with the lightest possible federal touch.

### Appropriations

- **Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020** Provides FY2020 appropriations for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers civil works projects, the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation, the Department of Energy (DOE), and independent agencies such as the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. (*Appropriations*)
  - **S.2470** (Sen. Alexander – TN) *Introduced in Senate 9/12/19*

### Building and Manufacturing Energy Efficiency

- **Home Energy Savings Act** Reinstates, extends, and increases the tax credit for nonbusiness energy property through 2019. (*Finance; Ways & Means*)
  - **S.2588** (Sens. Collins – ME, Hassan – NH) *Reported out 12/12/19*
  - **H.R. 4506** (Reps. Gomez – CA, Kelly – PA)

- **New Home Energy Efficiency Act** Reinstates, extends, and increases the new home energy efficiency tax credit through 2022. (*Finance; Ways & Means*)
  - **S.2595** (Sens. Collins – ME, Hassan – NH)
  - **H.R. 4646** (Reps. Gomez – CA, Kelly – PA)

- **Streamlining Energy Efficiency for Schools Act** Would coordinate the provision of energy retrofitting assistance to schools. (*Energy & Natural Resources; Energy & Commerce*)
  - **S.253** (Sens. Collins – ME, Warner – VA)
  - **H.R. 762** (Reps. Cartwright – PA, Fitzpatrick – PA) *Reported by ENR 7/16/19*

- **Materials Pilot Program at DOE** Would require DOE to create a pilot program for energy efficient materials, including roofing, lighting, windows, doors, HVAC, ventilation and energy generation. (*Energy & Natural Resources*)
  - **S.520** (Sens. Klobuchar – MN, Hoeven – ND) *Reported by ENR 7/16/19*
  - House introduction pending
- **Energy Savings and Building Efficiency Act** Would promote energy savings in residential and commercial buildings and industry. The bill would ensure that all Department of Energy code change proposals are made available to the public, including calculations on costs and savings; subject to the official rulemaking process, allowing for public comment; and Taking into account small business concerns. *(Energy & Commerce)*
  - Senate introduction pending

- **The Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act** Would promote the use of energy efficiency technologies in the residential, commercial, and industrial sectors of the economy. It would incentivize the use of efficiency technologies that are commercially available today, can be widely deployed across the country, and quickly pay for themselves through energy savings. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*

- **Smart Manufacturing Leadership Act** Would improve the productivity and energy efficiency of the manufacturing sector by directing the Sec. of Energy, in coordination with the National Academies and other federal agencies, to develop a national smart manufacturing plan and to provide assistance to small-and-medium-sized manufacturers in implementing smart manufacturing programs. *(Energy & Natural Resources; Energy & Commerce, Science, Space & Technology)*

- **BRIGHT Act** Would require the GSA to procure the most life-cycle cost-effective and energy efficiency lighting products and to issue guidance on the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of those products. *(Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs)*
  - House introduction pending

- **Energy Savings Through Public-Private Partnerships Act** Would encourage the increased use of performance contracting in federal facilities. *(Energy & Natural Resources; Energy & Commerce, Science, Space & Technology)*

- **Commercial, Low Emissions and Net Energy Reduction Buildings Act** Would extend the tax deduction for energy efficient commercial buildings through December 31, 2019. Under current law, the deduction expired after December 31, 2017. *(Ways & Means)*
  - Senate introduction pending

- **Smart Building Acceleration Act** Would provide rebates to homeowners who invest in energy efficiency improvements. Homeowners who demonstrate at least a 20% energy savings would receive a $2,500 rebate. Those who demonstrate at least a 40% energy savings would receive a $5,000 rebate. *(Energy & Commerce, Transportation & Infrastructure, Science, Space & Technology)*
- **CHP Support Act** Would help unleash the potential of CHP and WHP systems by authorizing continued funding for a network of ten Technical Assistance Partnerships (TAPs) for five years. TAPs provide CHP and WHP education to potential system hosts so that they can learn more about the technology and determine if it’s the right fit for their company. *(Energy & Commerce, Transportation & Infrastructure, Science, Space & Technology)*
  - Senate introduction pending
  - **H.R.2044** (Rep. Kinzinger – IL)

- **All-of-the-Above Federal Building Energy Conservation Act** Would help the federal government improve energy efficiency, while providing flexibility in using efficient fuels, like natural gas, that would otherwise be phased out while enhancing federal building energy efficiency standards. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*
  - **S.1245** (Sens. Hoeven – ND, Manchin – WV) *Reported by ENR 7/16/19*
  - House introduction pending

  - **S.1857** (Sens. Murkowski – AK, Manchin – WV) *Reported by ENR 7/16/19*
  - **H.R.3962** (Reps. Welch – VT, McKinley – WV)

- **Smart Energy and Water Efficiency Act** Would direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a smart energy and water efficiency program, and for other purposes. *(Energy & Commerce, Natural Resources Committee, Science, Space, and Technology, Transportation & Infrastructure)*
  - Senate introduction pending

- **Weatherization Enhancement and Local Energy Efficiency Investment and Accountability Act** Would reauthorize the Weatherization Assistance Program *(Energy & Natural Resources)*
  - **S.983** (Sens. Coons – DE, Collins – ME) *Marked up, reported by ENR 7/16/19*
  - House introduction pending

**Conservation & Resilience**

- **Save Our Seas 2.0 Act** Would spur innovation and help reduce the creation of plastic waste, find uses for already existing plastic waste to keep it from entering the oceans, and tackle the problem on a global scale. *(Commerce, Science & Transportation)*
  - **S.1982** (Sens. Sullivan – AK, Whitehouse – RI)
  - House introduction pending

- **Coastal State Climate Preparedness Act** Would amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a coastal climate change adaptation preparedness and response program. *(Natural Resources)*
  - Senate introduction pending
Carbon Capture & Fossil Energy

- **USE IT Act** Would support carbon utilization and direct air capture research. The bill would also support federal, state, and non-governmental collaboration in the construction and development of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration (CCUS) facilities and carbon dioxide (CO2) pipelines. *(Energy and Public Works; Energy & Commerce, Natural Resources Committee, Science, Space, and Technology, Transportation & Infrastructure)*

- **Securing Energy for our Armed Forces Using Engineering Leadership Act** Would require DoD to carry out the Direct Air Capture and Blue Carbon Removal Technology Program. *(Armed Services)*
  - Senate introduction pending

- **Small Scale LNG Access Act** Would amend the Natural Gas Act to expedite approval of exports of small volumes of natural gas. *(Energy & Natural Resources; Energy & Commerce)*

- **Enhancing Fossil Fuel Energy Carbon Technology Act** Would amend the fossil energy research and development provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to enhance fossil fuel technology, and for other purposes. *(Energy & Commerce)*
  - House introduction pending

- **LEADING Act** Would incentivize R&D of CCS for natural gas to ensure a reliable, affordable, and environmentally sound energy supply. Would also promote the continued use of natural gas so we can keep energy bills low, maintain U.S. energy security, and protect the environment all at the same time. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*

Energy Storage

- **Better Energy Storage Technology (BEST) Act** Would advance grid-scale energy storage through a 5-year R&D and demonstration program at DOE totaling $300 million. Programs would seek to develop “Highly Flexible”, “Long Duration” and Seasonal” energy storage systems. *(Energy & Natural Resources; Energy & Commerce, Science, Space & Technology)*

- **Joint Long-Term Storage Act** Would require DOE to establish a demonstration initiative focused on the development of long-duration energy storage technologies, including a joint program to be established in consultation with the Secretary of Defense. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*
House introduction pending

- **Advancing Grid Storage Act** Would require DOE to establish an energy storage research program, a demonstration and deployment program, and a technical assistance and grant program. *(Energy & Commerce, Science, Space & Technology)*
  - Senate introduction pending
  - **H.R.1743** (Reps. Takano – CA, Collins – NY)

**Infrastructure, Grid Modernization & Security**

- **Enhancing State Energy Security Planning and Emergency Preparedness Act** Would provide financial assistance to states to develop or revise a State Energy Security Plan. The bill outlines the contents of a State Security Plan, including the need for coordination and joint exercises with industry and federal stakeholders. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*
  - **S.2094** (Sens. Gardner – CO, Bennet – CO)
  - House introduction pending

- **Expanding Access to Sustainable Energy Act** Would establish an energy storage and microgrid grant and technical assistance program. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*
  - **S.1183** (Sens. Klobuchar – MN, Moran – KS)
  - **H.R.4447** (Reps. O’Halleran – AZ, Mullin – OK)

- **Securing America’s Infrastructure Act** Would establish a two-year pilot program within the DOE national laboratories to (1) identify the security vulnerabilities of certain entities in the energy sector, and (2) evaluate technology that can be used to isolate the most critical systems of such entities from cyberattacks. In addition, DOE must establish a working group to evaluate the technology solutions proposed by the national laboratories and to develop a national strategy to isolate the energy grid from attacks. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*
  - **S.174** (Sens. King – ME, Risch – ID) *Marked up, reported by ENR 7/16/19*
  - House introduction pending

- **Enhancing State Energy Security Planning and Emergency Preparedness** Would provide federal financial assistance to states to implement, review, and revise state energy security plans, and for other purposes. *(Energy & Commerce)*
  - Senate introduction pending
  - **H.R. 2114** (Reps. Rush – IL, Upton – MI) *Passed House 9/9/19*

- **America’s Transportation Infrastructure Act of 2019** Authorizes $287 billion over five years, including $259 billion for formula programs to maintain and repair America’s roads and bridges. The total represents an increase of over 27 percent from FAST Act levels. The legislation includes provisions to improve road safety, streamline project delivery, protect the environment and grow the economy. *(Environment & Public Works)*
  - **S.2302** (Sens. Barrasso – WY, Carper – DE)
  - House introduction pending

**Geothermal, Hydro, and Nuclear Energy**
• **RIVER Act** Would reauthorize hydroelectric production incentives and hydroelectric efficiency improvement incentives. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*
  - S.859 (Sen. Gardner—CO) Marked up, reported by ENR 7/16/19
  - House introduction pending

• **ARPA-E Reauthorization Act of 2019** bill authorizes ARPA-E for 5 years up to $1 billion in 2024 and has a few other differences compared to current law. *(Science, Space and Technology)*
  - Senate introduction pending

• **Advanced Geothermal Innovation Leadership Act of 2019 (AGILE) Act** Would accelerate geothermal energy development in the United States through provisions for research and development of both existing and enhanced geothermal systems, resource assessment updates, grant program authorization, and improved permitting. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*
  - S.2653 (Sens. Murkowski – AK, Manchin – WV)
  - House introduction pending

• **Nuclear Waste Policy** Would reform financing mechanisms to protect ratepayers and assure the DOE has adequate funding to construct and operate a multi-generational infrastructure project. Directs DOE to move forward with a temporary storage program to consolidate spent nuclear fuel from sites with a decommissioned reactor while work on the Yucca Mountain repository progresses and prioritizes the transfer of spent fuel from seismically active areas to interim sites. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*

• **STRANDED Act** Would award economic impact grants to local government entities to offset the economic impacts of stranded nuclear waste, establish a task force to identify existing funding that could benefit these communities and create a competitive grant program to help these communities find alternatives to nuclear facilities, generating sites and waste sites. *(Environment & Public Works)*
  - S.1985 (Reps. Duckworth – IL, Collins – ME)
  - House introduction pending

• **Reliable Investment in Vital Energy Reauthorization Act** Would reauthorizes hydroelectric production incentives and hydroelectric efficiency improvement incentives. *(Energy & Commerce)*
  - Senate introduction pending

• **Nuclear Energy Leadership Act (NELA)** Would establish advanced nuclear goals, provide for a versatile, reactor-based fast neutron source, make available high-assay, low-enriched uranium for R&D, and demonstration of advanced nuclear reactor concepts. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*
  - S.903 (Sen. Murkowski – AK, Manchin – WV) Marked up, reported by ENR 7/16/19
• **Advanced Nuclear Fuel Availability Act** Would direct the Department of Energy to develop and deploy high-assay low-enriched uranium for domestic commercial use and to develop a schedule for recovering costs associated with such development. *(Energy & Commerce)*  
  o Senate introduction pending  

**Jobs in Clean Energy**

• **Energy Jobs for Our Heroes Act** Would establish a program to prepare veterans for careers in the energy industry, including the solar, wind, cybersecurity, and other low-carbon emissions sectors or zero-emissions sectors of the energy industry. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*  
  o House introduction pending

• **Offshore Wind Jobs and Opportunity Act** Would requires the Secretary of Energy to establish an offshore wind career training grant program, and for other purposes. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*  
  o House introduction pending

**R&D and Innovation**

• **Fossil Energy Research and Development Act** Would direct federal research in fossil energy and to promote the development and demonstration of environmentally responsible coal and natural gas technologies, and for other purposes. *(Science, Space, & Technology)*  
  o Senate introduction pending  

• **Integrated Energy Systems Act** Would authorize an Integrated Energy Systems Program at the Department of Energy to promote the development of innovative technologies to improve the economic competitiveness of nuclear power plants, promote grid stability, and reduce carbon emissions in the industrial sector. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*  
  o House introduction pending

• **Wind Energy Research and Development Act** Reauthorizes wind energy research, development, and demonstration. *(Science, Space, & Technology; Energy & Natural Resources)*  

• **Solar Energy Research and Development Act** Would provide for a program of solar energy research, development, and demonstration *(Science, Space, & Technology)*  

• **Challenges & Prizes for Climate Act** Would direct DOE to provide for prize competitions relating to climate and energy, and for other purposes. *(Energy & Commerce, Science, Space & Technology)*  
  o Senate introduction pending  
• Small Businesses Partnering with National Labs Act Would allow small businesses to gain access to premier facilities at the national labs, spurring innovation and stimulating the culture of private-public collaboration. The bill also streamlines the application and approval process for vouchers, eliminating barriers that prevent small businesses from exploring the potential of new technologies. *(Energy & Natural Resources; Science, Space & Technology)*  
  o  **S.2009** (Sen. Coons – DE, Risch – ID)  
  o  **H.R. 3574** (Reps. Lujan – NM, Fleischmann – TN)

• IMPACT for Energy Act Would establish a nonprofit foundation to engage with the private sector to raise funds that support the creation, development, and commercialization of innovative technologies that address tomorrow’s energy challenges. *(Energy & Natural Resources)*  
  o  **H.R. 3575** (Reps. Lujan – NM, Wilson – SC)

Removing Statutory Barriers

• **Renewable Energy Certainty Act** Would allow federal agencies to enter into 30-year PPAs for energy generated from renewable resources or cogeneration. Longer PPA’s improve the financial viability of wind projects. Apart from the Department of Defense, federal agencies can currently only enter into 10-year PPAs with energy providers. *(Energy & Commerce, Oversight & Government Reform)*  
  o  Senate introduction pending  
  o  **H.R.932** (Reps. Welch – VT, Norman – SC)

• **Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act of 2019** Promotes development of wind, solar, and geothermal energy on public lands. *(Natural Resources, Agriculture; Energy & Natural Resources)*  
  o  **S.2666** (Sens. McSally – AZ, Heinrich – NM, Gardner – CO, Udall – NM)  
  o  **H.R.3794** (Reps. Gosar – AZ, Levin – CA)

• **American Energy Opportunity Act of 2019** Would provide state and local governments with voluntary tools to expedite and standardize the permitting process for distributed energy technologies, such as rooftop solar and battery storage. *(Energy and Natural Resources)*  
  o  **S.2447** (Sens. Collins—ME, Heinrich—NM)  
  o  House introduction pending

• **Financing Our Energy Future Act** Would provide investors of clean energy projects access to Master Limited Partnerships (MLPs), an existing tax advantage currently available only to investors in fossil fuel-based energy projects. *(Finance/Ways & Means)*  
  o  **S.1841** (Sens. Coons – DE, Moran – KS)  
  o  **H.R.3249** (Reps. Thompson – CA, Estes – KS)

All-of-the-Above Tax Incentives

The Internal Revenue Code can be an effective tool for incentivizing investment in next-generation clean energy and energy efficiency technologies. Through an all-inclusive approach, which includes the bipartisan legislation below, Congress can make a significant down payment on advancing clean energy deployment and reducing emissions.
• **Tax Extenders** Would extend certain expired and expiring tax provisions, many of which incentivize investments in the clean energy space. *(Finance, Ways & Means)*
  - S.617 (Sens. Grassley – IA, Wyden – OR)

• **Carbon Capture Tax Act** Clarifies and aligns 45Q IRS guidelines with current Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations that already reflect operational and legal differences between enhanced oil and gas recovery and geological storage under the Clean Air Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. *(Finance)*
  - S.2263 (Sens. Hoeven – ND)
  - House introduction pending

• **Renewable Electricity Tax Credit Equalization Act** Extend tax credits for investments in qualified renewable energy production, including closed-loop biomass, open-loop biomass, geothermal, municipal solid waste, qualified hydropower, and marine and hydrokinetic. This bill also equalizes the treatment of renewable technologies by eliminating the arbitrary 50% reduction of the production credit for these baseload technologies. *(Ways & Means)*
  - Senate introduction pending
  - H.R.4186 (Reps. Peters—CA, Stefanik—NY)

• **Renewable Energy Extension Act** Extend the energy investment tax credit (ITC) for five years to promote clean energy investment. *(Ways and Means)*
  - Senate introduction pending
  - H.R.3961 (Reps. Thompso—CA, Cook—CA)

• **Carbon Capture Modernization Act** Would modernize the Section 48A tax credit for clean coal facilities to better support the use of carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) technology. The Section 48A tax credit was first established in 2005, and CO2 capture projects were made eligible in 2008. However, the current eligibility standards for the credit are not technically or economically feasible for CCS retrofit projects. *(Finance; Ways & Means)*
  - S.407 (Sens. Hoeven – ND, Smith – MN)
  - H.R.1796 (Reps. McKinley – WV, Peterson – MN)

• **Carbon Capture Improvement Act** Would provide for the issuance of exempt facility bonds for qualified CCS facilities. *(Finance)*
  - S.1763 (Sens. Bennet – CO, Portman – OH)
  - House introduction pending

• **Nuclear Powers America Act** Would provide existing nuclear power plants with an investment tax credit. *(Finance; Ways & Means)*
  - S.1134 (Sen. Cramer – ND, Cardin – MD)
  - H.R.2314 (Rep. LaHood – IL, Bustos – IL)

• **Agricultural Environmental Stewardship Act** Would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make qualified biogas property and qualified manure resource recovery property eligible for the
energy credit and to permit renewable energy bonds to finance qualified biogas property, and for other purposes. *(Finance/Ways & Means, Science, Space, and Technology)*

- Senate introduction pending
- **H.R.3744** (Reps. Kind – WI, Reed – NY)

- **Energy Storage Tax Incentive and Deployment Act** Would expand the existing investment tax credit for solar energy to include energy storage technology, including large, utility-scale energy storage projects or smaller battery systems for residential use. Storage technology is only currently eligible for the ITC in certain cases. *(Finance; Ways & Means)*
  - **S.1142** (Sens. Heinrich – NM, Gardner – CO)
  - **H.R.2096** (Reps. Doyle – PA, Buchanan – FL)

- **Electric Vehicle Tax Credit Reform** Driving America Forward Act would allow consumers to claim a $7,000 tax credit on electric vehicles on an additional 400,000 vehicles per automaker. Current law allows for up to a $7,500 tax credit on 200,000 vehicles per manufacturer, after which the credit is phased out. *(Finance; Ways & Means)*
  - **H.R.2256** (Rep. Kildee – MI)

- **Incentivizing Offshore Wind Power Act** Would extend the energy credit for offshore wind facilities. *(Finance)*
  - House introduction pending

  - Senate introduction pending
  - **H.R.715** (Reps. Welch – VT, McKinley – WV)

- **Energy Sector Innovation Credit Act** is a technology-neutral approach that would leverage new private investment in nascent clean technologies, help cutting-edge technologies break into the market, and then naturally phasedown as each technology proves commercial viability. It could bring about the new technologies needed to quickly and cheaply reduce global emissions. *(Ways & Means)*
  - Senate introduction pending
  - **H.R.5523** (Reps. Reed – NY, Panetta – CA)

**Transportation Electrification**

- **Vehicle Innovation Act** Would promote investments in R&D of clean vehicle and advanced safety technologies to increase fuel efficiency. Examples technologies include vehicle-to-vehicle and vehicle-to-infrastructure (V2X) communications, mild hybrid, engine down speed, power pack modeling and testing, advanced boosting systems, new vehicle sensing and communication, hydrogen and natural gas refueling and electric vehicle charging technology. Also would authorize critical resources for the Vehicle Technologies Office to encourage R&D to keep pace with emerging advanced technologies. *(Energy & Natural Resources; Natural Resources)*
- S.1085 (Sens. Peters – MI, Alexander – TN) Marked up, reported by ENR 7/16/19