



NELA

Nuclear Energy Leadership Act

Moving America Back into First Place on Nuclear Energy

The United States was once the global leader in nuclear energy but has surrendered that position to China and Russia, weakening our energy security, economic competitiveness, and national security. To reestablish global leadership, the U.S. must have a healthy nuclear industry capable of designing and deploying the most advanced reactor concepts in the world at a competitive price. Advanced nuclear can and will play a critical role in providing reliable, flexible, emissions-free energy in the U.S. and around the world.

Policy Highlights

The **Nuclear Energy Leadership Act (NELA)** will put America back in first place on nuclear energy by establishing robust public-private partnerships between our leading research institutions and our best industry innovators. NELA will facilitate the path to market for advanced reactors by allowing the federal government to be an early adopter of commercialized technologies; demonstrating innovative concepts in partnership with the private sector; providing for needed scientific research facilities; breaking down fuel availability barriers when the market cannot; and training the next generation of nuclear scientists who will lead the U.S. to a brighter energy future.

- ✓ **Job Creation** – Grows U.S. jobs that support advanced nuclear technology both here at home and for a growing global market, which in 2016 the U.S. Department of Commerce estimated could reach up to \$740 billion through 2026.
- ✓ **Cutting-Edge Technology** – Allows the federal government to be an early adopter of new technologies that increase electric reliability and resilience for high-value assets for national security purposes.
- ✓ **Global Leadership** – Directs the Department of Energy (DOE) to establish strong goals and a coherent strategy to align the federal government, national labs, and private industry—accelerating innovation to develop clean, advanced nuclear technology to compete with rival nations.
- ✓ **Proof Positive Research** – Directs DOE to construct a fast neutron-capable research facility, which is necessary to test important reactor components and demonstrate their safe and reliable operation—crucial for licensing advanced reactor concepts.
- ✓ **Filling the Fuel Gap** – Establishes a program to provide a minimum amount of advanced reactor fuel until a fresh long-term domestic supply is developed.
- ✓ **Workforce Development** – Creates a university nuclear leadership program to establish a world-class, highly-skilled nuclear workforce to develop, regulate, and safeguard the next generation of advanced reactors.