

COMMITTEE ON
**SCIENCE, SPACE, AND
TECHNOLOGY**
CHAIRMAN LAMAR SMITH



For Immediate Release
June 11, 2014

Media Contacts: Zachary Kurz
(202) 225-6371

**Statement of Energy Subcommittee Chairman Cynthia Lummis (R-Wyo.)
Subcommittee Markup of Committee Print of the “Department of Energy Research and
Development Act of 2014”**

Chairman Lummis: Good afternoon and welcome. Today the Energy Subcommittee will mark up the Committee Print of the Department of Energy Research and Development Act of 2014.

The Department of Energy’s Office of Science is the largest supporter of basic research in the physical sciences and its applied research programs in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), Nuclear Energy (NE), Fossil Energy (FE), and Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE) conduct various stages of R&D in order to accelerate new energy technologies to the market.

The Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) supports funding for the development of high-risk, high-reward energy technology that would not otherwise occur. This measure will authorize DOE’s research and development activities that are exclusively within the Science Committee’s jurisdiction.

This legislation also builds on a bipartisan Senate bill to grant more flexibility to the national labs and implement best practices across the national lab system. As we discussed in yesterday’s Subcommittee hearing, the United States’ status as a global leader in science and technology is slipping, which is why the Committee Print being marked up today will achieve three main points: innovation, prioritization and deficit reduction.

INNOVATION: The United States’ continued success in an increasingly competitive global market will rely on our engineers and scientists having access to the best user facilities and R&D infrastructure. This will enable the most intelligent researchers to make discoveries that lead to the most innovative products here in the U.S. The priority basic research conducted by and supported through the DOE Office of Science is increased by 5% in this measure. This is true to the intent of the COMPETES Act legacy.

PRIORITIZATION: As the national debt continues to climb, we have to have our national interests in the right place. The federal government has a responsibility to look out for not just the short term, but the long-term interests of the United States. Federal funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy has grown at an out-of-control rate under the Obama Administration without a clear justification. This Committee Print reprioritizes funding within DOE’s R&D portfolio to emphasize long-term, fundamental research that empowers our brightest scientists and engineers to make this century’s groundbreaking discoveries and develop new transformative knowledge, especially in Advanced Scientific Computing Research and Basic Energy Sciences.

DEFICIT REDUCTION: The United States' continual deficit spending when the national debt is already over \$17 trillion is unsustainable. Therefore, we in the Science Committee have to make tough decisions – the responsible decisions that American citizens sent us here to make on their behalf. This includes cuts to R&D within our own jurisdiction in order to reduce our nations' deficit spending. The measure before us cuts spending by over \$230 million from DOE's bottom line.

This legislation presents an opportunity to get the United States back to a common-sense, sustainable path for our nation's energy future.

I encourage Members to support the Committee Print.