

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6533

To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish an Office of Advanced Clean Energy Technologies to manage a network of Regional Energy Innovation and Development Institutes to advance clean energy technologies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Ms. BONAMICI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish an Office of Advanced Clean Energy Technologies to manage a network of Regional Energy Innovation and Development Institutes to advance clean energy technologies, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Regional Clean Energy
5 Innovation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) **CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY.**—The term
4 “clean energy technology” means a technology, pro-
5 duction process, or methodology that—

6 (A) produces energy from solar, wind, geo-
7 thermal, biomass, tidal, wave, ocean, or another
8 renewable energy source (as defined in section
9 609 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies
10 Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 918c));

11 (B) more efficiently transmits, distributes,
12 or stores energy;

13 (C) enhances energy efficiency for build-
14 ings, manufacturing processes, and industry, in-
15 cluding combined heat and power;

16 (D) enables the development of a Smart
17 Grid (as described in section 1301 of the En-
18 ergy Independence and Security Act of 2007
19 (42 U.S.C. 17381)), including integration of re-
20 newable energy sources and distributed genera-
21 tion, demand response, demand side manage-
22 ment, and systems analysis;

23 (E) produces an advanced or sustainable
24 material with clean energy or energy efficiency
25 applications; or

1 (F) improves energy efficiency for trans-
2 portation, including electric vehicles.

3 (2) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
4 the Director of the Office of Advanced Clean Energy
5 Technologies.

6 (3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
7 ty” means a State, a unit of local government, a
8 Tribal government, an institution of higher edu-
9 cation, a business, a National Laboratory, a labor
10 organization, and any other entity the Secretary de-
11 termines appropriate.

12 (4) NATIONAL LABORATORY.—The term “Na-
13 tional Laboratory” has the meaning given such term
14 in section 2(3) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42
15 U.S.C. 15801(3)).

16 (5) OFFICE.—The term “Office” means the Of-
17 fice of Advanced Clean Energy Technologies estab-
18 lished under section 3(a).

19 (6) REGIONAL ENERGY INNOVATION AND DE-
20 VELOPMENT INSTITUTE OR REIDI.—The term “Re-
21 gional Energy Innovation and Development Insti-
22 tute” or “REIDI” means a partnership—

23 (A) of at least 2 eligible entities; and

1 (B) that is designated by the Director
2 under the program established under section
3 3(e).

4 (7) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
5 the Secretary of Energy.

6 **SEC. 3. OFFICE OF ADVANCED CLEAN ENERGY TECH-**
7 **NOLOGIES.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish
9 an Office of Advanced Clean Energy Technologies within
10 the Department of Energy.

11 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Office is to ad-
12 vance mid-stage and late-stage innovation, development,
13 demonstration, and commercialization of clean energy
14 technologies, in accordance with regional capabilities and
15 market needs, in order to further regional net-zero green-
16 house gas emissions pathways.

17 (c) DIRECTOR.—The Office shall be headed by a Di-
18 rector who shall be appointed by the President, with the
19 advice and consent of the Senate, and shall report to the
20 Secretary.

21 (d) DUTIES.—The duties of the Director shall in-
22 clude—

23 (1) assessing regional capabilities to develop
24 and utilize, and market needs for, clean energy tech-
25 nologies;

1 (2) analyzing region-specific pathways to
2 decarbonization and net-zero greenhouse gas emis-
3 sions to inform the designation of Regional Energy
4 Innovation and Development Institutes;

5 (3) establishing and carrying out the program
6 described in subsection (e);

7 (4) establishing and maintaining a staff with
8 sufficient qualifications and expertise to enable the
9 Office to carry out its duties in conjunction with
10 other operations of the Department of Energy; and

11 (5) coordinating with National Laboratories
12 and other Federal agencies, offices, and programs,
13 including the Economic Development Administra-
14 tion, to avoid duplication of effort and to work to-
15 gether to address gaps in mid-stage and late-stage
16 innovation, demonstration, deployment, and commer-
17 cialization of clean energy technologies.

18 (e) PROGRAM TO DESIGNATE AND SUPPORT
19 REIDIS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall establish
21 and carry out a program to designate, and provide
22 financial assistance and other support to, Regional
23 Energy Innovation and Development Institutes in
24 accordance with this subsection.

1 (2) PROGRAM CONTENTS.—In carrying out the
2 program established under paragraph (1) the Direc-
3 tor shall—

4 (A) establish goals for Regional Energy In-
5 novation and Development Institutes and pub-
6 lize the goals to eligible entities;

7 (B) support the creation and development
8 of Regional Energy Innovation and Develop-
9 ment Institutes by providing incentives to eligi-
10 ble entities to organize as partnerships and ad-
11 dress specific targeted clean energy technologies
12 and market intersections;

13 (C) provide assistance to partnerships of
14 eligible entities in applying to be designated as
15 Regional Energy Innovation and Development
16 Institutes;

17 (D) designate partnerships of eligible enti-
18 ties as Regional Energy Innovation and Develop-
19 ment Institutes, taking into consideration—

20 (i) an appropriate balance of geo-
21 graphical interests;

22 (ii) existing clean energy technology
23 innovation efforts, including innovation ef-
24 forts of National Laboratories, and other
25 resources;

1 (iii) regional variations in energy sup-
2 ply and demand and in resilience of energy
3 supply and demand;

4 (iv) the potential for job creation in
5 the area to be served by the proposed Re-
6 gional Energy Innovation and Development
7 Institute from mid-stage and late-stage in-
8 novation, demonstration, deployment, and
9 commercialization of clean energy tech-
10 nologies; and

11 (v) the extent to which the proposed
12 Regional Energy Innovation and Develop-
13 ment Institute will address environmental
14 justice and energy issues for rural and low-
15 income households, communities of color,
16 Tribal communities, and communities that
17 are disproportionately vulnerable to the ef-
18 fects of climate change and greenhouse gas
19 emissions;

20 (E) promote collaboration and resource
21 sharing among Regional Energy Innovation and
22 Development Institutes;

23 (F) in collaboration with National Labora-
24 tories, provide technical assistance to Regional
25 Energy Innovation and Development Institutes;

1 (G) provide financial assistance to Re-
2 gional Energy Innovation and Development In-
3 stitutes to carry out activities described in para-
4 graph (3);

5 (H) share best practices for establishing
6 and operating Regional Energy Innovation and
7 Development Institutes;

8 (I) support Regional Energy Innovation
9 and Development Institutes in the navigation of
10 regulatory processes; and

11 (J) assess the success of the Regional En-
12 ergy Innovation and Development Institutes
13 through the establishment of technical mile-
14 stones, which shall be used to determine wheth-
15 er to terminate the designation of Regional En-
16 ergy Innovation and Development Institutes
17 that are not achieving such milestones.

18 (3) USE OF FUNDS.—A Regional Energy Inno-
19 vation and Development Institute may use financial
20 assistance provided under the program established
21 under paragraph (1) to carry out activities that ad-
22 vance mid-stage and late-stage innovation, develop-
23 ment, demonstration, and commercialization of clean
24 energy technologies, in accordance with regional ca-
25 pabilities and market needs, in order to further re-

1 regional net-zero greenhouse gas emissions pathways,
2 including activities that—

3 (A) facilitate commercialization of clean
4 energy technologies through collaboration with
5 relevant regulatory authorities and identifica-
6 tion of regulatory structures that create obsta-
7 cles to deployment and commercialization of
8 clean energy technologies;

9 (B) connect eligible entities that are part-
10 ners in the Regional Energy Innovation and
11 Development Institute to technical resources,
12 modeling, and test beds;

13 (C) foster mentorship, business develop-
14 ment, education, and research and development
15 investments relating to clean energy tech-
16 nologies; and

17 (D) design and implement initiatives to
18 stimulate market demand for clean energy tech-
19 nologies that will substantially contribute to re-
20 gional net-zero greenhouse gas emissions path-
21 ways.

22 (4) COST SHARE.—The Federal share of the
23 cost of any activity carried out by a Regional Energy
24 Innovation and Development Institute shall be not
25 more than 50 percent.

1 (5) APPLICATIONS.—To apply for designation
2 as a Regional Energy Innovation and Development
3 Institute, and for financial and other assistance,
4 under the program established under paragraph (1),
5 a partnership of eligible entities shall submit an ap-
6 plication to the Director that includes—

7 (A) a description of the eligible entities in
8 the partnership;

9 (B) a description of the geographical re-
10 gion that will be represented by the Regional
11 Energy Innovation and Development Institute;

12 (C) a plan for and description of the activi-
13 ties to be carried out by the Regional Energy
14 Innovation and Development Institute with
15 Federal funds, including a description of how
16 such activities will—

17 (i) align with State, local, regional,
18 and Tribal policies;

19 (ii) contribute to job creation;

20 (iii) contribute to regional net-zero
21 greenhouse gas emissions pathways and re-
22 ductions in greenhouse gas emissions; and

23 (iv) address market need in deploy-
24 ment, and increase market competitiveness,
25 of clean energy technologies;

1 (D) a description of the clean energy sec-
2 tors that will be served by the Regional Energy
3 Innovation and Development Institute, and how
4 such sectors were identified in relation to re-
5 gional market needs;

6 (E) a description of the non-Federal fund-
7 ing sources to be utilized in carrying out the ac-
8 tivities of the Regional Energy Innovation and
9 Development Institute; and

10 (F) such other information as the Director
11 may require.

12 (f) REPORTS AND PLAN.—

13 (1) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Director shall an-
14 nually submit to Congress, as part of the Depart-
15 ment of Energy’s annual budget submitted for a fis-
16 cal year, a report describing activities conducted by
17 each Regional Energy Innovation and Development
18 Institute during the previous fiscal year.

19 (2) STRATEGIC PLAN.—Not later than one year
20 after the date of enactment of this Act, and at least
21 once every 5 years thereafter, the Director shall sub-
22 mit to Congress a strategic plan for the Office for
23 the following 5 years that includes a plan for how
24 the Office will advance mid-stage and late-stage in-
25 novation, development, demonstration, and commer-

1 cialization of clean energy technologies, in accord-
2 ance with regional capabilities and market needs, in
3 order to further regional net-zero greenhouse gas
4 emissions pathways.

5 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
6 authorized to be appropriated, for each of fiscal years
7 2023 through 2027, \$150,000,000 to carry out this sec-
8 tion, of which not more than \$25,000,000 shall be for the
9 administrative expenses of the Office each fiscal year.

○