

# THE CLEAN ECONOMY JOBS AND INNOVATION ACT

## FACT SHEET

**H.R. 4447, the Clean Economy Jobs and Innovation Act, makes long-overdue reforms to U.S. energy policy and authorizes major investments in the transition to a low-carbon future.** This legislation promises to usher in a new era in American innovation, serving as a down-payment on comprehensive climate action. It includes programs to develop and deploy renewable and distributed energy resources; improve the efficiency of our homes and businesses; electrify our transportation sector; modernize the grid and enhance its resiliency; prioritize the needs of environmental justice communities; reduce carbon pollution from industrial and traditional sources; and much more. **Taken together, these measures provide a path towards modernizing our energy system while taking an important step to tackling the climate crisis and growing our economy.**

### Clean Energy:

- Supports the transition to a low-carbon economy by investing in clean energy, distributed energy resources, energy storage systems, and microgrids – all of which build resiliency and are crucial to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Authorizes over \$4 billion for research, development, demonstration, and commercial application (RDD&CA) to advance cutting-edge renewable energy technologies, including solar, wind, geothermal, and water power.
- Invests in advanced nuclear energy RDD&CA, with a strong emphasis on project demonstration and scale-up.
- Establishes new RDD&CA programs to accelerate the development of innovative energy storage systems.
- Brings clean, reliable energy to marginalized communities, including \$25 million for grants to deploy energy storage and microgrids in rural communities and \$1 billion for solar installations in low-income communities.
- Establishes a \$20 billion Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator to finance and mobilize private investment in low-carbon technologies and projects.
- Enhances dam safety requirements and modernizes existing hydroelectric infrastructure.
- Promotes additional renewable energy development on public lands.

### Energy Efficiency:

- Sets new energy efficiency standards for buildings, which roughly count towards 30% of greenhouse gas pollution, and provides funding for schools, homes,

municipal buildings, and manufacturing facilities to improve efficiency and deploy energy-efficient technologies.

- Authorizes grants to local communities to improve energy efficiency, including \$500 million for workforce training and \$5 billion in rebates for home retrofits.
- Boosts funding for popular and proven energy efficiency programs, providing nearly \$1.7 billion for the Weatherization Assistance Program and \$17.5 billion for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program.

#### **Grid Modernization, Cybersecurity, and Supply Chain Security:**

- Includes funding and other measures to modernize the electric grid, such as programs to improve resilience and reliability, enhance cybersecurity, protect critical infrastructure and supply chains, and improve transmission planning.
- Invests in grid-related RDD&CA projects, including through \$3.5 billion in grants for projects that harden the grid against the effects of climate change and improve resilience and security.
- Directs the Department of Energy to establish a national strategy to address issues related to the critical materials supply chain, in addition to authorizing grants for the recycling and reuse of critical materials.

#### **Clean Transportation:**

- Invests in the technology and infrastructure needed to electrify and substantially reduce emissions from the transportation sector, which is the largest source of greenhouse gas pollution in the U.S.
- Authorizes over \$36 billion for transportation electrification, including through grants and rebates to deploy electric vehicles and related charging infrastructure.
- Authorizes \$650 million to deploy low- and zero-emissions school buses, \$375 million for the Clean Cities Coalition Program, and \$2.5 billion for the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act.
- Modernizes the Department of Energy's manufacturing conversion and advanced vehicle technologies grant programs to expand eligibility for certain low- and zero-emission vehicles and related technologies.

#### **Modernizing the Federal Approach to Innovation:**

- Drives investment in clean energy innovation by increasing funding for the Advanced Research Projects Agency–Energy, including a path to double its funding by fiscal year 2025.
- Establishes programs to accelerate the transition of clean energy technologies from lab to market and to support clean energy entrepreneurs who come from underrepresented backgrounds.

#### **Reducing Carbon Pollution and Enhancing Industrial Innovation:**

- Establishes new RDD&CA programs to accelerate the deployment of technologies that reduce emissions from the industrial sector, including \$500 million in grants for demonstration projects.
- Invests in carbon capture, utilization, and storage RDD&CA, including direct air capture, to significantly reduce net emissions from all sectors of the economy as quickly as possible, consistent with the recommendations set forth in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change special report on limiting global warming to 1.5 degree Celsius.
- Includes a phasedown of the production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), a highly potent greenhouse gas, by 85 percent over 15 years. Enacting this provision could help avoid up to 0.5 degree Celsius of warming while creating American manufacturing jobs and making U.S. industry more competitive globally.
- Establishes a \$1.25 billion grant program to prevent methane leaks from the natural gas distribution system and to offset rate increases for low-income communities.

#### **Environmental Justice:**

- Prioritizes the needs of those on the frontlines of climate change, including low-income communities, communities of color, and other marginalized groups.
- Prioritizes clean energy projects located in low-income and marginalized communities and advances the development of technologies and practices that expand access to clean energy.
- Creates new environmental justice grant and training programs to empower communities and reduce health disparities.
- Requires federal agencies to integrate environmental justice into their missions.
- Reverses a court decision to restore private rights of action against recipients of federal funding based on discriminatory disparate impacts.

#### **Workforce Development and Labor Protections:**

- Establishes a clean energy workforce development program to educate and train the next generation of clean energy researchers, scientists, and professionals, including through grants to eligible businesses.
- Requires that any project funded under the Act to construct, alter, maintain, or repair a public building or public work only use iron, steel, and manufactured goods produced in the United States.
- Includes strong prevailing wage standards and project labor agreement requirements for any project fully or partially funded under the Act.
- Creates a new program to train workers for careers in offshore wind.

#### **Scientific Integrity:**

- Codifies scientific integrity principles across all Federal science agencies and requires agencies to implement policies and processes aligned with such principles.
- Requires each agency to appoint a Scientific Integrity Officer with authority to manage scientific integrity disputes.