

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1067

To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a research and development and demonstration program to reduce manufacturing and construction costs relating to nuclear reactors, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 25, 2011

Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a research and development and demonstration program to reduce manufacturing and construction costs relating to nuclear reactors, 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 “Nuclear Energy Re-
5 search Initiative Improvement Act of 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH INITIATIVE.**

2 Section 952(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42
3 U.S.C. 16272(a)) is amended—

4 (1) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting
5 the following:

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary;” and

7 (2) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(2) AUTHORIZED RESEARCH INITIATIVES.—In
9 carrying out the program under this subsection, the
10 Secretary shall conduct research to lower the cost of
11 nuclear reactor systems, including research regard-
12 ing—

13 “(A) modular and small-scale reactors;

14 “(B) balance-of-plant issues;

15 “(C) cost-efficient manufacturing and con-
16 struction;

17 “(D) licensing issues; and

18 “(E) enhanced proliferation controls.

19 “(3) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—In car-
20 rying out initiatives under paragraph (2), the Sec-
21 retary shall consult with—

22 “(A) the Secretary of Commerce;

23 “(B) the Secretary of the Treasury;

24 “(C) the Nuclear Regulatory Commission;

25 and

1 “(D) any other individual who the Sec-
2 retary determines to be necessary.

3 “(4) SCHEDULE.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
5 days after the date of enactment of this para-
6 graph, the Secretary shall develop and publish
7 on the website of the Department of Energy a
8 schedule that contains an outline of a 5-year
9 strategy to lower effectively the costs of nuclear
10 reactors.

11 “(B) PUBLIC WORKSHOPS.—In developing
12 the schedule under subparagraph (A), the Sec-
13 retary shall conduct public workshops to pro-
14 vide an opportunity for public comment.

15 “(C) REVIEW.—Before the date on which
16 the Secretary publishes the schedule under sub-
17 paragraph (A), the Nuclear Energy Advisory
18 Committee shall conduct a review of the sched-
19 ule.

20 “(D) ANNUAL UPDATES.—

21 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than
22 180 days after the date on which the Sec-
23 retary publishes the schedule under sub-
24 paragraph (A) and annually thereafter, the
25 Secretary shall update the schedule.

1 “(ii) PUBLIC WORKSHOPS.—In updat-
2 ing the schedule under clause (i), the Sec-
3 retary shall conduct public workshops in
4 accordance with subparagraph (B).

5 “(5) COST SHARING.—Section 988 shall apply
6 to initiatives carried out under this section.

7 “(6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
8 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
9 this section \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years
10 2012 through 2016.”.

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