



June 29, 2020

Representative Frank Pallone, Jr.
Representative Greg Walden
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member Walden:

On behalf of ClearPath Action, a 501(c)4 organization working to accelerate policies for clean energy innovation, I am writing to support the *Hydropower Clean Energy Future Act of 2020* sponsored by Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA). This legislation would support the development of clean, low-emission hydropower while encouraging innovation for the next-generation in the hydropower industry.

Specifically this legislation will:

- Recognize the value of hydropower as a renewable resource;
- Modernize the licensing process through increased coordination;
- Provide regulatory certainty for private-sector investments in the U.S. hydropower fleet;
- Require FERC and DOE to coordinate on a report to identify hydropower barriers and;
- Promote environmentally friendly next-generation hydropower development.

The bill increases regulatory certainty for private-sector investments into the U.S. fleet, one of our nation's largest renewable energy resources. It addresses many of the fundamental problems facing potential developers and existing owners, such as establishing predictable licensing timelines and recognizing "early improvements" by developers in subsequent licenses. The current relicensing process can last well over a decade and drives up costs on the industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rich Powell".

Rich Powell
Executive Director, ClearPath Action