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107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1830

To ensure the energy self-sufficiency of the United States by 2011, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2001

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut (for himself, and Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Science, and Government Reform, 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

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A BILL

To ensure the energy self-sufficiency of the United States by 2011, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Energy Independence Act of 2001".

SEC. 2. DOMESTIC ENERGY SELF-SUFFICIENCY PLAN.

(a) STRATEGIC PLAN.—The Secretary of Energy shall develop, and transmit to the Congress within 1 year

after the date of the enactment of this Act, a strategic plan to ensure that the United States is energy self-sufficient by the year 2011. The plan shall include recommendations for legislative and regulatory actions needed to accomplish that goal.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Energy $20,000,000 for carrying out this section.

SEC. 3. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FUEL CELL PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Energy shall establish a program for the acquisition of—

(1) up to 100 commercially available 200 kilowatt fuel cell power plants;

(2) up to 20 megawatts of power generated from commercially available fuel cell power plants; or

(3) a combination thereof,

for use at federally owned or operated facilities. The Secretary shall provide funding for purchase, site engineering, installation, startup, training, operation, and maintenance costs associated with the acquisition of such power plants, along with any other necessary assistance.

(b) DOMESTIC ASSEMBLY.—All fuel cell systems and fuel cell stacks in power plants acquired, or from which

power is acquired, under subsection (a) shall be assembled in the United States.

(c) SITE SELECTION.—In the selection of federally owned or operated facilities as a site for the location of power plants acquired under this section, or as a site to receive power acquired under this section, priority shall be given to sites with 1 or more of the following attributes:

(1) Location (of the Federal facility or the generating power plant) in an area classified as a nonattainment area under title I of the Clean Air Act.

(2) Computer or electronic operations that are sensitive to power supply disruptions.

(3) Need for a reliable, uninterrupted power supply.

(4) Remote location, or other factors requiring off-grid power generation.

(5) Critical manufacturing or other activities that support national security efforts.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Energy $140,000,000 for the period encompassing fiscal years 2002 through 2004 for carrying out this section.

SEC. 4. PROTON EXCHANGE MEMBRANE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President, in coordination with the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, shall establish a program for the demonstration of fuel cell proton exchange membrane technology in the areas of responsibility of those Secretaries with respect to commercial, residential, and transportation applications, including buses. Such program shall specifically focus on promoting the application of and improved manufacturing production and processes for proton exchange membrane fuel cell technology.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the purpose of carrying out this subsection, there are authorized to be appropriated $140,000,000 for the period encompassing fiscal years 2002 through 2004.

(b) BUS DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President, in coordination with the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Transportation, shall establish a comprehensive proton exchange membrane fuel cell bus demonstration program to address hydrogen production, storage, and use in transit bus applications.

Such program shall cover all aspects of the introduction of this new technology, and shall include the following components:

(A) Development, installation, and operation of a hydrogen delivery system located on-site at transit bus terminals.

(B) Development, installation, and operation of on-site storage associated with the hydrogen delivery systems as well as storage tank systems incorporated into the bus itself.

(C) Demonstration of use of hydrogen as a practical, safe, renewable energy source in a highly efficient, zero-emission power system for buses.

(D) Development of a hydrogen proton exchange membrane fuel cell power system that is confirmed and verified as being compatible with transit bus application requirements.

(E) Durability testing of the fuel cell bus at a national testing facility.

(F) Identification and implementation of necessary codes and standards for the safe use of hydrogen as a fuel suitable for bus application, including the fuel cell power system and related operational facilities.

(G) Identification and implementation of maintenance and overhaul requirements for hydrogen proton exchange membrane fuel cell transit buses.

(H) Completion of fleet vehicle evaluation program by bus operators along normal transit routes, providing equipment manufacturers and transit operators with the necessary analyses to enable operation of the hydrogen proton exchange membrane fuel cell bus under a range of operating environments.

(2) DOMESTIC ASSEMBLY.—All fuel cell systems and fuel cell stacks in power plants acquired, or from which power is acquired, under paragraph (1) shall be assembled in the United States.

(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the purpose of carrying out this subsection, there are authorized to be appropriated $150,000,000 for the period encompassing fiscal years 2002 through 2004.

SEC. 5. FEDERAL VEHICLES.

Each agency of the Federal Government that maintains a fleet of motor vehicles shall develop a plan for a transition of the fleet to vehicles powered by fuel cell technology. Each such plan shall include implementation be-

ginning by fiscal year 2006, to be completed by fiscal year 2011. Each plan shall incorporate and build on the results of completed and ongoing Federal demonstration programs, including the program established under section 4, and shall include additional demonstration programs and pilot programs as necessary to test or investigate available technologies and transition procedures.

SEC. 6. LIFE-CYCLE COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS.

Any life-cycle cost benefit analysis undertaken by a Federal agency with respect to investments in products, services, construction, and other projects shall include an analysis of environmental and power reliability factors.

SEC. 7. STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT INCENTIVES.

(a) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Energy shall establish a program for making grants to State or local governments for the use of fuel cell technology in meeting their energy requirements, including the use as a source of power for motor vehicles. Each grant made under this section shall require at least a 10 percent matching contribution from the State or local government recipient.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of En-

ergy $110,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2002 through 2006 for carrying out this section.

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