

- \$2,000,000 for the Navajo Electrification Project, NM [OE];
- \$2,350,000 for Load Control System Reliability, MT [OE];
- \$10,000,000 for SCADA test beds in New Mexico and Idaho [OE];
- \$2,500,000 for advancing AC- and DC-power communications, OH [OE];
- \$2,000,000 for Grid Computing in KY and its Impact of Research and Education Project [OE];
- \$1,500,000 to University of Missouri-Rolla for electric grid modernization [OE]; and
- \$1,000,000 for the Integrated Distribution Management System in Alabama [OE].

NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAMS

Appropriations, 2005	\$385,568,000
Budget estimate, 2006	389,906,000
House allowance	377,701,000
Committee recommendation	449,906,000

The Committee recommendation provides \$449,906,000 for nuclear energy, an increase of \$60,000,000 above the request.

University Reactor Fuel Assistance and Support.—The Committee recommends \$24,000,000 for university reactor fuel assistance and support. The Committee recommends \$4,500,000 from within available funds for the Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering at the Idaho National Laboratory.

University nuclear engineering programs and university research reactors represent a fundamental and key capability in supporting our national policy goals in health physics, materials science and energy technology. The Committee strongly supports the University Reactor Fuel Assistance and Support program's efforts to provide fellowships, scholarships, and grants to students enrolled in nuclear energy, science and engineering programs and related areas like health physics at U.S. universities, as well as efforts to provide fuel assistance and reactor upgrade funding for university-owned research reactors.

The Committee remains concerned about the ability of the Nation to respond to the growing demand for trained experts in nuclear science and technology in the face of financial and other challenges affecting engineering programs and research reactor facilities at American universities.

The Committee strongly endorses the administration's commitment to cooperate with the People's Republic of China in its expansion of nuclear power. The Committee believes that the deployment of advanced U.S. reactor technology is critical to meet the growing energy demands in China and to contribute to improved air quality.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Committee recommendation for nuclear energy research and development includes a total of \$251,000,000, an increase of \$60,000,000 over the budget request.

Nuclear Energy Research Initiative.—The Committee strongly supports the NERI program. Consistent with the goals of the November 1997 President's Committee of Advisors on Science and