



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 30, 2010

H.R. 5866

Nuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 2010

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science and Technology
on September 23, 2010*

SUMMARY

H.R. 5866 would authorize the appropriation of nearly \$1.3 billion over the 2011-2013 period to the Department of Energy (DOE) for programs related to nuclear energy. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 5866 would cost \$1.3 billion over the 2011-2015 period. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

H.R. 5866 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 5866 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 270 (energy).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2011- 2015
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	420	430	440	0	0	1,290
Estimated Outlays	252	376	431	175	56	1,290

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 5866 will be enacted in 2010 and that appropriations will be provided as specified by the bill. Estimated outlays are based on the historical rate of spending for DOE's nuclear energy research programs. H.R. 5866 would authorize appropriations totaling about \$1.3 billion over the 2011-2013 period, primarily for DOE to carry out a variety of research programs related to nuclear power. (DOE received a total of nearly \$800 million for nuclear energy programs in 2010.) The authorization includes:

- \$603 million for research and development related to the nuclear fuel cycle;
- \$297 million for research on crosscutting nuclear technologies and efforts to integrate research on specific elements of nuclear energy;
- \$195 million to support efforts to design and license small modular nuclear reactors;
- \$192 million for nuclear energy research and development and activities to demonstrate commercial applications of nuclear technologies; and
- \$3 million for the National Institute for Standards and Technology to establish a committee to revise and establish standards for nuclear technologies.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 5866 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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