

WASHINGTON - Congressman Lee Terry (NE-02) joined a majority of his House colleagues today in passing the comprehensive energy bill that aims to boost domestic sources of energy, increase the use of clean renewable power, and diversify the nation's energy portfolio. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 (H.R. 6) was approved by the U.S. House of Representatives by a bipartisan vote of 249 to 183.

Today marks the fifth time in four years the House has passed a comprehensive energy bill. The bill has failed to win final Senate approval, in prior sessions of Congress.

"This energy bill is an opportunity to ensure a better future," Terry said. "The bill addresses present day energy problems while looking beyond the horizon. By boosting the use of hydrogen fuel cells, renewable fuels, and other forms of alternative energy, we can begin meeting the energy demands of tomorrow. This is perhaps the most important legislation Congress will consider this year. The lack of a comprehensive energy plan is hurting our families and our economy."

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As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Terry helped to author and amend the 1,000-page energy legislation, which contains five provisions authored by Terry, including a major section to boost natural gas supply by expediting the approval process for new liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals. On the House floor, Terry helped fight efforts to strike this provision.

Terry's other sections would provide \$4 billion over five years to speed the arrival of affordable, viable hydrogen fuel cells; create a new Department of Energy program to encourage the use of on-site energy production from fuel cells and micro-turbines; and allow the use of livestock methane as an eligible source under the renewable energy fund for public power.

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"Over the last four years, Congress has had nearly 200 hours of floor debate and markup debate, 80 hearings, 12 markup sessions, and has considered over 300 amendments," Terry added. "The other body now needs to do its job so we can get this to the President."

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