

Stimulus Energy Funding

Written by Mike Honda

I recently joined [Secretary of Energy Steven Chu](#) , President John Hennessy of Stanford University, physicists and scientists at [SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory](#) to dedicate their [Linear Coherent Light Source](#) (LCLS). The event celebrated SLAC's strong commitment to research and innovation. SLAC is a leader in exploring energy, space and time and developing and operating innovative scientific facilities. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I was pleased that SLAC benefited from federal stimulus funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) which will support their research and efforts to discover new science that benefits the American people.

A recent [White House report](#) states that the tens of billions of dollars in stimulus funding for energy projects is helping to significantly expand operation and use of advanced technologies and development of science research. The [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act \(ARRA\)](#) has been instrumental in unleashing new technology to change the way Americans use and produce energy.

The ARRA provided \$1.6 billion for the [Department of Energy's \(DOE\) Office of Science](#) which is the single largest supporter of basic research in physical sciences - overseeing research programs in climate science, biofuels, high-energy physics, nuclear physics and other areas crucial to our energy future. The [DOE's Office of Basic Energy Science's](#) investment of nearly half a billion dollars to construct LCLS has enabled scientists to understand not only how atomic structures look, but also how they move and interact with each other.

As a Member of the House Appropriations [Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science](#) , I will continue to advocate for projects to fund cutting edge facilities like the Linear Coherent Light Sources at SLAC. The research conducted by these facilities allows us to improve human

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health, develop new sources of energy, control climate change, and protect our environment.