On Friday, November 5th, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3684, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), which will now be sent to President Biden to be signed into law.

The IIJA will appropriate $9.5 billion for hydrogen-related RDD&D activities over five years. Within that funding, the bill will provide $8 billion to create a Regional Clean Hydrogen Hub program, which will support integrated hydrogen production, transport, storage, and end-use activities that will lay the foundation for a clean hydrogen economy. The bill also funds other important provisions to ensure the production of hydrogen with significantly reduced carbon dioxide intensity so that hydrogen can contribute to domestic decarbonization objectives. CHFC is extremely supportive of hydrogen-related provisions in the IIJA, as they are in alignment with the coalition’s fuel-agnostic, technology-neutral policy approach to scaling clean hydrogen.

CHFC Chairman Erik Mason, Global Head of Energy Supply & Trading at Nikola, issued the following statement in support of the legislation:

“The Clean Hydrogen Future Coalition (CHFC) commends the House of Representatives for the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), which includes bipartisan provisions that would appropriate $9.5 billion for clean hydrogen related programs over the next five years. The CHFC thanks Congressional leaders on both sides of the aisle that contributed to the development of these provisions and championed them throughout the legislative process. We look forward to President Biden signing the IIJA into law so that clean hydrogen can fully realize its role as a versatile decarbonization tool and create well-paying jobs across sectors.

The CHFC was formed to support policy solutions that promote a resource-agnostic, technology-neutral approach to the economy-wide deployment of clean hydrogen, an approach that is reflected in the IIJA. The bill appropriates $8 billion to construct four regional clean hydrogen hubs that will create networks of clean hydrogen producers, consumers, and the associated infrastructure that will underpin the transition to a clean hydrogen economy. Importantly, these regional hubs will exhibit feedstock, geographic, and market diversity so that all regions of the country can benefit from the transition and the associated jobs that they will create. The bill also includes funding for an ambitious research, development, and demonstration program for clean hydrogen produced by electrolysis with renewable energy, revises DOE’s existing hydrogen research and development program, and calls for DOE to develop a national strategy and roadmap for widescale clean hydrogen production, processing, delivery, storage, and use.
We look forward to this legislation being signed into law and to working with federal agencies to ensure effective and efficient implementation of these programs.”