

(April 27, 2006) Congressman Lipinski: H-Prize will Advance Innovative Hydrogen Energy Research

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Congressman Lipinski and Science Committee Chairman Boehlert question

witnesses at the Science Committee hearing on H.R. 5143, The H-Prize Act of 2006

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, Congressman Dan Lipinski voiced his support for research and development of hydrogen fuel and other long-term energy resources during a U.S. House Committee on Science hearing.

"Working families are suffering under record high gasoline and natural gas prices, and we know about the national security threats posed by our continued reliance on foreign fossil fuels," said Lipinski. "Hydrogen is one energy source that has shown great potential for powering our economy in the future and I want to ensure that our country is at the forefront of hydrogen research."

Despite its promise, a great deal of research and development is needed before hydrogen energy is commercially available. Witnesses before the Committee discussed their support of H.R. 5143, The H-Prize Act of 2006. Congressman Lipinski is the chief Democratic co-sponsor of this vital bipartisan legislation, which establishes a program to competitively award cash prizes in an effort to advance the long-term research and commercialization of hydrogen energy technologies

"We in Congress have a responsibility to find creative and new ways to inspire researchers, business leaders, and our youth to utilize new energy sources," said Rep. Lipinski. "Hydrogen holds enormous potential as the base of our future economy, but we must take action today to ensure that we have the technology that we need tomorrow. The H-Prize will help us get there by inspiring researchers, entrepreneurs, and others to compete to find the keys to developing and commercializing hydrogen fuel."