

Chairman Brett Guthrie
Opening Statement—Subcommittee on Energy
Subcommittee Markup of 13 Bills
June 5, 2025

As prepared for delivery

Thank you, Chairman Latta, and the members of this subcommittee for the important work to advance American leadership through energy abundance.

Today, the Energy Subcommittee is considering 13 pieces of legislation that are critical to fueling American energy production, securing US leadership in next generation industries, and powering our nation’s electric grid with reliable and affordable energy.

Throughout our history, the prosperity and security of the United States has always been linked to reliable and affordable energy.

Today’s world is no different.

We are on the precipice of dramatic change that could be shaped by the outcome of our race with China for AI leadership and efforts to reshore job creating industries.

All of which require a staggering increase in our energy supplies and there’s no time to waste.

This committee has spent considerable time this Congress already studying how AI has the potential to change our everyday lives, raise standards of living, improve health outcomes, and lift people out of poverty.

But if we fail to win the race to AI dominance to an authoritarian regime like China, we risk ceding the next generation technologies to a communist regime that does not share our democratic values. Energy security and supply is key to developing the AI infrastructure we need to be globally competitive.

With that in mind, the Energy Subcommittee has been hard at work to reverse course from the Biden-Harris Administration’s “*energy transition*” to chart a path towards “*energy abundance*.”

If we want to see what energy transitions look like, we can look no further than our allies in Europe who are struggling to keep the lights on because of the aggressive policy decisions of left-leaning governments.

These same countries continue to rely on Russian natural gas instead of cleaner burning and affordable American LNG.

Meanwhile, manufacturing and energy intensive industries are fleeing the European continent in search of better investment opportunities.

We cannot allow our country to follow suit.

Only this past Memorial Day Weekend, we were reminded of our own ongoing electric reliability crisis and constrained energy supplies as the southern portion of MISO [My-So] was forced to initiate an emergency load shedding event to prevent widespread outages due to higher-than-expected demand.

During the 119th Congress, this Committee has held several hearings with grid operators, engineers, and experts in the energy industry that are sounding the alarm about the state of our nation's energy system.

We were told that the policies designed to subsidize renewable technologies are resulting in a concerning imbalance with baseload power coming offline, which is undermining stability of the electric system.

We heard from witnesses that not all electrons are a one-for-one substitute, and that we should not be taking baseload power plants offline without sufficient and comparable replacements.

I would remind my colleagues, if AI models could run on just wind and solar power, they would be doing so already.

To fuel American energy abundance, the bills before us today address key impediments to an efficient and cost-effective infrastructure development while identifying opportunities to expand our refining capacity, improve our hydropower permitting process, and secure our energy supply chains.

In addition, bills before us today will ensure timely interconnection of dispatchable resources and rightly place the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or FERC, as the federal authority on reliability to prevent a future Clean Power Plan 3.0

Importantly, legislation before us today will bolster our energy production and advance our national security interests by reversing the Biden administration's LNG export ban and streamlining permitting for natural gas pipelines to fuel investment into energy intensive industries while lowering costs for hardworking households.

Altogether, the bills before our Subcommittee today take an important step to advance President Trump's energy dominance agenda and cement our nation's role as a global leader in energy production.

I yield back the balance of my time.