Renewing American Energy Dominance

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Renewing American Energy Dominance

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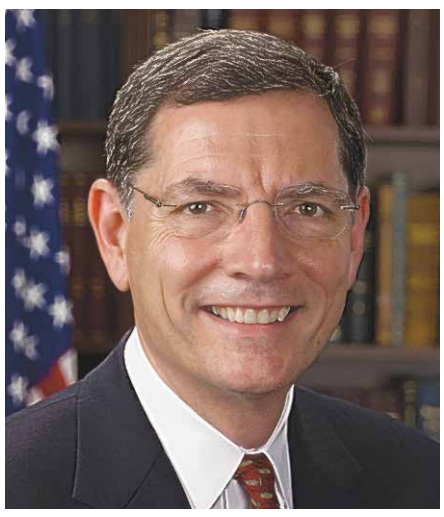
A haul truck driving on a road inside an open pit coal mine in the Powder River Basin of Wyoming.

Restoring American energy independence



By U.S. Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyoming

Republicans are fighting to harness every source of affordable, available, reliable American energy. Energy is more than fuel. It means freedom. It powers our economy, secures our future, and safeguards our nation. It is time to unleash that promise.

For years, reckless regulation stifled our energy potential. The prior administration's policies drove household energy prices up by 31% in four years. Families and businesses were squeezed.

Regulations put coal offline, stalled oil and natural gas leases, and tethered us to foreign dictators. The shadow of dependency loomed. Meanwhile, China builds two coal power plants each week. Russia profits from Europe's energy weakness. This cannot continue.

America is no ordinary nation. We are an energy superpower. It is time we acted like it.

America is no ordinary nation. We are an energy superpower. It is time we acted like it.

America is blessed with boundless gifts. We have more clean-burning coal than any other nation. We have extensive oil and natural gas reserves. We have cutting-edge nuclear technology. When we use all our energy options, America wins.

President Donald Trump is off to a bold start. On Day One, his executive orders cleared the way for American energy dominance. Republicans in Congress are advancing legislation to boost energy production across the country.

Wyoming's Powder River Basin is poised to power the nation with affordable, clean coal. Gulf of America leases will expand oil production. Texas and Pennsylvania natural gas projects are scaling up. These efforts deliver clear benefits.

First, more American energy helps keep prices affordable. Electricity demand is set to double by 2050. Locking up our resources only drives up prices, exactly what we saw under the previous administration. Expanding affordable, reliable energy production secures the grid and puts money back in Americans' pockets.

Second, more American energy creates jobs. Coal mines in Wyoming, oil rigs in Texas, and natural gas fields in Pennsylvania power American prosperity. Removing heavy-handed restrictions means steady paychecks for workers and revitalized communities.

Growing demand for critical minerals means new opportunities in the mining sector. I recently introduced bipartisan legislation to boost America's mining workforce. My legislation will support our mining schools. The students we empower and the talent we unlock will power America's energy dominance for generations to come.

Third, energy security is national security. Europe last year spent $23 billion on Russian oil and gas. $23 billion is more money than Europe sent in aid to Ukraine. Europe's energy crisis shows that dependency on our enemies for energy is self-defeating.

American energy dominance reduces our vulnerability. Clean coal powers our data centers, ensuring they grow in America, not overseas. Natural gas exports weaken Russia's grip on Europe. Nuclear energy improves resilience. This is how we win the energy race and protect our nation.

Climate alarmists say traditional energy is the energy of the past. They miss the point. It is the energy of the future. Tomorrow's technologies are going to need more affordable, reliable energy, not less. Coal, oil, natural gas, and nuclear energy are not the enemy. They are the engine of economic growth.

We stand at a crossroads. One truth binds us: power for every American, from our land to your home. That is the Republican vision for energy. It is the spark of an American energy revolution. It is rocket fuel for a stronger economy and a more secure country.

Sen. John Barrasso of Wyoming is the Senate Majority Whip.

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Aerial photo of the Rodeo Renewable Energy Complex located in Rodeo, California.

American independence starts with smarter energy and chemical policy

By Chris Jahn

Independence is not just a principle from our past; it is the foundation which America must build upon for a stronger future. As the global marketplace grows more competitive and geopolitics more complex, we must assert our independence — not only in spirit, but by action on smarter national policies.

As the saying goes, "*the best defense is a good offense*." That's why we must act boldly on multiple fronts to defend America's economic and energy interests from foreign adversaries. And one of the most critical battle lines is energy independence.

According to a recent survey by Morning Consult for the American Chemistry Council, three in four Americans recognize the importance of energy independence. And more than 80% agree that the chemical industry plays an essential role in making it possible.

The chemical industry doesn't just consume energy — it transforms it. Just as flour is essential to a baker, natural gas is vital to chemical manufacturing. We use energy as a feedstock to make molecules that are vital to everyday life. Over the past decade, a surge in domestic natural gas production has propelled the U.S. to a leadership position in global chemical production and innovation. That progress has meant real results: jobs, investments, and revitalized communities across America.

To maintain this momentum, we must adopt an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy and streamline permitting processes to increase domestic energy supplies. But boosting energy independence alone isn't enough.

We must also assert our dominance in global chemical manufacturing. The Morning Consult survey found that nearly three-quarters of Americans understand that expanding U.S. chemical production will continue to drive job creation, capital investment, and innovation.

Unfortunately, creating more chemistry in America is being held back by a major regulatory roadblock. At the center of this issue is the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), the EPA's primary authority for approving chemicals that are essential to everything from energy to everyday products. TSCA is critically important, but its implementation has faltered. The result? A backlog that has left new, innovative chemicals stuck in limbo awaiting EPA's review.

Currently, nine in ten new chemicals under TSCA review are delayed, with approval times stretching up to six years — far longer than the three to six months seen in other nations. This glacial pace stifles innovation and forces companies to look overseas to bring new technologies to the market.

This is more than just unacceptable; it is putting our nation in jeopardy of falling behind other countries, especially China – the world's largest producer of chemicals.

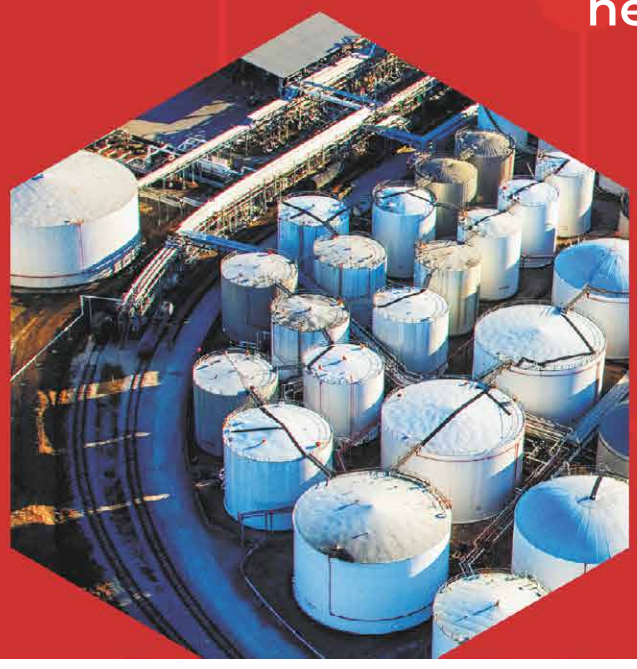
American success relies on American chemistry, which is why we are calling on the Trump administration and policymakers on both sides of the aisle to make targeted improvements to TSCA. EPA has taken some positive steps, but more substantial and permanent changes are needed, including a public "shot clock" for new chemical reviews. This countdown should include enforcement mechanisms to help keep EPA accountable for making timely approvals and providing greater transparency. Getting TSCA on track will help support the investment and R&D our country needs to stay ahead.

We must not forget that independence is not a given — it must be earned and safeguarded. Our nation's future depends on bold, smart policies that bolster energy and chemical production here at home. It's time for Congress and the Administration to act decisively and secure the prosperity and independence that define us as a nation.

When chemistry creates, America competes. Learn more here about how the American Chemistry Council is helping build a stronger, more affordable nation.

To maintain this momentum, we must adopt an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy and streamline permitting processes to increase domestic energy supplies. But boosting energy independence alone isn't enough.

Chris Jahn is president and CEO of the American Chemistry Council. For more insights on how American success relies on American chemistry, follow Chris on LinkedIn and @JahnChris on X.



From fortifying the supply chain to growing the economy to protecting our national security—**it all relies on producing more energy and chemistry here in America.**

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The road to energy dominance runs through Pennsylvania

By U.S. Sen. Dave McCormick, R-Penn.

If you asked people on the street at random what they see when they think of energy production, you'd probably get answers ranging from oil rigs in West Texas and wind turbines across the Midwest to solar panels in California and coal mines in West Virginia.

When I think of American energy, I envision a future of energy domination and innovation that will expand economic opportunity, create new well-paying jobs, and bolster our national security, all while being good stewards of the environment.

That future runs right through Pennsylvania.

The Keystone State is the second-largest energy producer in the nation, has the fourth-largest natural gas reserves in the world, and is a leader in nuclear energy. We are ready to power the AI revolution, to export gas domestically and around the world, and to lead the way in energy innovation.

Pennsylvania is already home to 79 data centers hungry for power, and the AI revolution will only continue driving up demand. Our state's vast natural gas resources, combined with our skilled workforce, plentiful water, proximity to major population centers, and elite research institutions, make Pennsylvania a logical base to power America's innovative technological future.

This year, I will hold the inaugural Pennsylvania Energy and Innovation Summit in Pittsburgh. The event will bring together elected officials, leading energy and AI companies, global investors, labor leaders, and trades to ensure that Pennsylvania is a leader in attracting data center investment and creating good jobs through the AI revolution.

During Senate confirmation hearings, I secured endorsements for the summit from Energy Secretary Chris Wright and Interior Secretary Doug Burgum. I've spoken with President Trump about the summit, and he's also offered his support.

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A drilling rig at a site located in Cogan Station, Pennsylvania.

The more I travel across the Commonwealth, the more convinced I become of the potential Pennsylvania has to guide America's energy future. Philadelphia Gas Works is working to export LNG through the Port of Philadelphia. Penn America Energy and the Pennsylvania Building Trades are collaborating on a $7 billion project to build a new LNG export terminal along the Delaware River in Eddystone.

In January, I met with Building Trades leaders in Philadelphia, where we discussed the enormous potential data centers have for creating well-paying construction jobs here in Pennsylvania and making the commonwealth a hub for the AI revolution. Pennsylvania's skilled workforce will be instrumental in building the energy infrastructure we need to secure our energy future.

On the other side of the state, Eos Energy Enterprises is manufacturing zinc-powered energy storage in the Mon Valley. When I visited their facilities, they were sourcing 92% of their supply chain from the U.S., and they're working to make that 100%. Eos has the type of high-performing, lower-cost product that's going to be critical to restoring American energy independence and ending our dependence on China — exactly the kind of opportunity we are aiming for in Pennsylvania.

Our state's vast natural gas resources, combined with our skilled workforce, plentiful water, proximity to major population centers, and elite research institutions, make Pennsylvania a logical base to power America's innovative technological future.

Another key component in making the Commonwealth an energy hub are our universities, research institutions, and vocational programs that are the leading research and innovation institutions — not just in the United States, but around the world. Penn State in particular offers a petroleum and natural gas engineering major at its College of Earth and Mineral Sciences. The coursework specifically focuses on the design, implementation, and management of solutions for subsurface energy production and storage. This program is perfectly tailored to attract and keep young talent in Pennsylvania and serve as a pipeline to the Commonwealth's energy industry for decades and generations to come.

For four years, we had an administration that held back domestic energy production. The costs were clear: inflation reached four-decade highs, and the world became more reliant on our adversaries for oil, gas, and other critical resources.

American energy is now back in business. President Donald Trump and his team are working to usher in a new era of American energy dominance. Relying on the diverse and expansive resources Pennsylvania has to offer will make sure this era is not a four or eight-year flash in the pan; instead, this new era will set the stage for America to become the world leader in energy and AI technology for generations to come.

Dave McCormick is a United States Senator from Pennsylvania.

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Without American energy dominance, there is no American dream

By U.S. Sen Bill Cassidy, R-La.

The American Dream is made possible by abundance. The more jobs, the better. The more food on the table, the better. The stronger our national security, the better. An abundance agenda promises that any American who is determined and willing to work hard can tap into the United States' unlimited potential and achieve his or her own American Dream.

In the United States, natural resources are vast, supporting more than eight million jobs in the energy sector alone. We boast more crude oil than any other country in the world. We ought to be a people of plenty. So why has our well-being and wealth been under threat?

Starting on Day One, back in 2021, the Biden-Harris administration made it their mission to kneecap domestic energy production. From banning new offshore oil and gas drilling to canceling the Keystone XL pipeline, they effectively declared war on American energy, the American worker, and our national standard of living.

Attempting to satisfy left-wing environmental zealots, Joe Biden and Kamala Harris cut tens of thousands of high-paying jobs in the United States. Predictably, the economy floundered. The most prosperous nation in the world became one in which filling up the gas tank was a struggle. The American Dream was yanked out of reach of the average family. All the while, the president and vice president patted each other on the back.

U.S. energy production is a lifeline to our allies and a stabilizing force for international markets and the economy. When American energy thrives, our allies thrive.

The damage has been great, and yet the hope is greater.

Although there is much to do if we are to return to energy dominance and a thriving American Dream, President Trump is focused on reversing the former administration's attacks on the American Dream. So am I.

Americans voted for President Donald Trump and Republicans, who made big gains in the Senate, where I serve on the mission-critical Energy and Natural Resources Committee, for this reason and more. Republicans are already hard at work reversing Biden-Harris green policies. Two of my bills are advancing: the Made in America Energy Act and the Offshore Energy Security Act. They would bring high-paying energy jobs back to the U.S. by requiring the U.S. Department of the Interior to hold offshore oil and gas lease sales off the coast of Louisiana, in the Gulf of *America*.

We're also working to bring manufacturing jobs back to our communities. I have introduced a plan to level the playing field for American manufacturers by applying a fee to high-pollution imports from countries like China, where factories operate with little or no regard for pollution standards. So, foreign competitors pollute freely while American manufacturers are put at a daunting competitive disadvantage. My plan would eliminate this disadvantage, increase American competitiveness, and offset unfair trade practices from China.

U.S. energy production is a lifeline to our allies and a stabilizing force for international markets and the economy. When American energy thrives, our allies thrive. By the same token, when America is stripped of its energy independence, the world is forced to rely on corrupt and predatory foreign adversaries to keep the lights on and the fuel tanks filled.

Indeed, the Biden-Harris campaign against American energy was a huge win for Russian dictator Vladimir Putin. Notably, in 2021, Biden waived sanctions on Russia's Nord Stream II natural gas pipeline, deepening European dependence on Russian gas and giving Putin the idea that the U.S., and Europe would be too weak to resist the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Now that three years have passed since that unprovoked attack, we must take strong measures to ensure a future free of Russian energy. The Europeans should get the fuel they need, including LNG, not from Russia, but from Louisiana and the rest of America.

President Trump wants to end the war in Ukraine, and we hope he is successful. Yet at the same time, we must end the war against American energy. In fact, we should win it. This vision of American energy dominance will not only secure peace, it will also guarantee, over the long term, abundant prosperity.

Dr. Bill Cassidy, Louisiana Republican, is the state's senior United States senator. He is the chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions Committee (HELP) Committee. He also serves on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Finance Committee and Veterans Affairs committees. Prior to the U.S. Senate, he served in the U.S. House, State Senate and taught LSU medical students and residents at Earl K. Long, a hospital for the uninsured.

America's AI moonshot will fail without affordable, reliable energy

By Daniel Turner

It's another race we can't afford to lose.

America must lead the development of artificial general intelligence (AGI) because it is a transformative frontier not only in computing, but also national defense and economic growth. But while we pour billions of dollars into chips and algorithms, a fundamental requirement cannot be overlooked: energy. Specifically, affordable, abundant, and reliable energy.

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Just as kerosene and liquid oxygen powered the Saturn V to the Moon, natural gas can power America's AI ascent. History has already taught us what happens when we ignore basic technological realities in favor of ideological fantasies.

If the United States fails to address this need immediately, it won't matter how advanced our processors are or how innovative our coders may be. The AI revolution — like the Space Race of the 20th century — will be won not only by software but by the strength of our fuel supply. We need policies that ensure we don't lose.

A recent analysis released by my organization, titled "Rocket Fuel for America's AI Moonshot," lays out the stakes in sobering detail. Its conclusion is clear: America cannot win the AI race if we tie our own hands with energy policies that undermine the stable, large-scale power needed to support datacenters, GPU clusters, and future AGI breakthroughs. China, Russia, and the oil-rich Middle East understand this and are acting accordingly by expanding coal fleets, courting datacenter investment, and casting off climate commitments to secure energy dominance. Meanwhile, too many American policymakers are still pretending that windmills and solar panels can do the job.

They cannot. Not for this.

To achieve AGI dominance, our nation needs to scale electricity production rapidly and reliably. Datacenters — already consuming 25% of Virginia's electricity — could use nearly half of that state's power by 2030. Nationally, Morgan Stanley estimates AI-related electricity demand will increase 70% per year, reaching the equivalent of Spain's total power consumption by as soon as 2027. This isn't a forecast; it's a warning.

Where will that power come from?

Wind and solar, still heavily reliant on foreign supply chains, are intermittent and land-hungry. Nuclear, while promising, won't be ready to scale in time due to a regulatory bottleneck and the atrophied supply chain for critical materials. Even fusion remains out of reach in the next decade.

That leaves us with the one source of energy America has in abundance, with the infrastructure to deliver it and the price stability to support mass deployment: natural gas.

Natural gas already generates nearly half of our nation's electricity. It is clean-burning, cost-effective, and plentiful. Yet the regulatory regime under the Biden administration actively discouraged its use. Permitting pipelines and power plants is not done overnight. Legal attacks from environmental NGOs stall even the most modest projects. And distorted subsidies for renewables — some so generous that operators are paid to *not* generate power — undermine the economics of reliable generation.

The result is a grid under stress, electricity prices climbing, and tech companies scrambling to secure off-grid natural gas to keep their AI ambitions alive. Even Microsoft is backing what will be the nation's largest natural gas power plant while simultaneously pledging carbon negativity by 2030. The hypocrisy would be comical if the consequences weren't so severe.

America needs to get serious. That means embracing natural gas as the strategic fuel it is — the rocket fuel for AGI.

Just as kerosene and liquid oxygen powered the Saturn V to the Moon, natural gas can power America's AI ascent. History has already taught us what happens when we ignore basic technological realities in favor of ideological fantasies.

When the Soviet Union launched Sputnik in 1957, the United States didn't pledge to reach the Moon with reusable hemp gliders. We picked the most energy-dense, reliable fuel we could find, and we used it — at scale — to win. We must do the same today.

Winning the AGI race won't require central planning. But it will require policy clarity: fast-track permitting for new gas plants and pipelines; protection of existing coal and gas baseload; reform of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to limit frivolous legal challenges; and repeal of tax credits that warp electricity markets in favor of unreliable power.

We should direct executive orders to unlock domestic production and transmission capacity, because China, Saudi Arabia, and Russia aren't waiting for local planning boards to approve their energy infrastructure. They are building. And unless we match them, the world's most transformative technology will be hosted on servers thousands of miles away — subject to censorship, espionage, or worse.

AGI, like the space race, is a moment of national consequence. The nation that controls AGI will shape the global economy, dominate defense capabilities, and lead the next century. But we won't get there on vibes and solar panels. We'll get there the same way we always have, with determination, ingenuity, and fuel that works.

We are sitting on the answer. It's beneath our feet. It's time to use it.

Daniel Turner is the founder and executive director of Power The Future, a national nonprofit organization that advocates for American energy jobs. Twitter/X: @DanielTurnerPTF

POWER THE FUTURE

THANK YOU PRESIDENT TRUMP FOR THE BEST 100 DAYS OF AMERICAN ENERGY DOMINANCE

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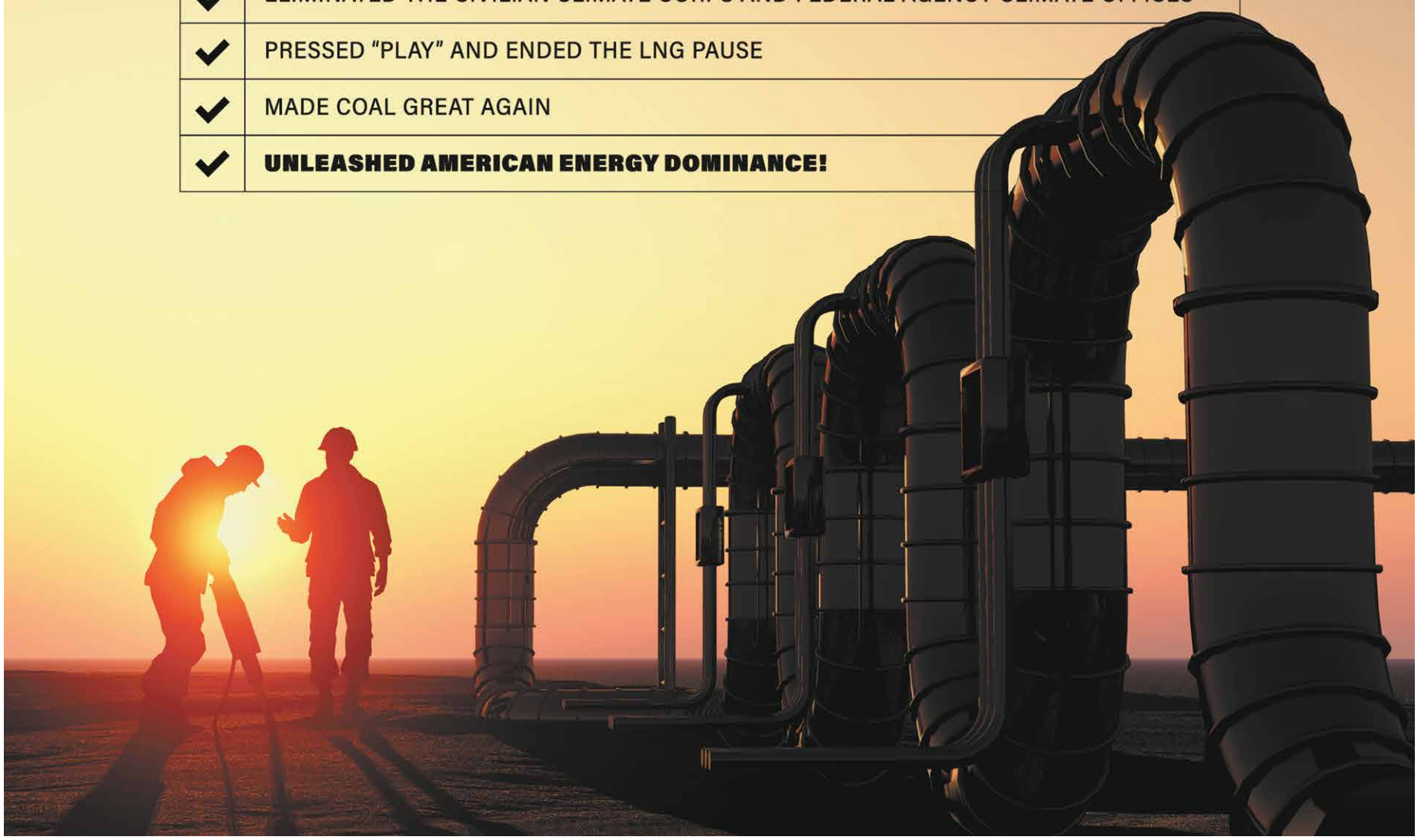
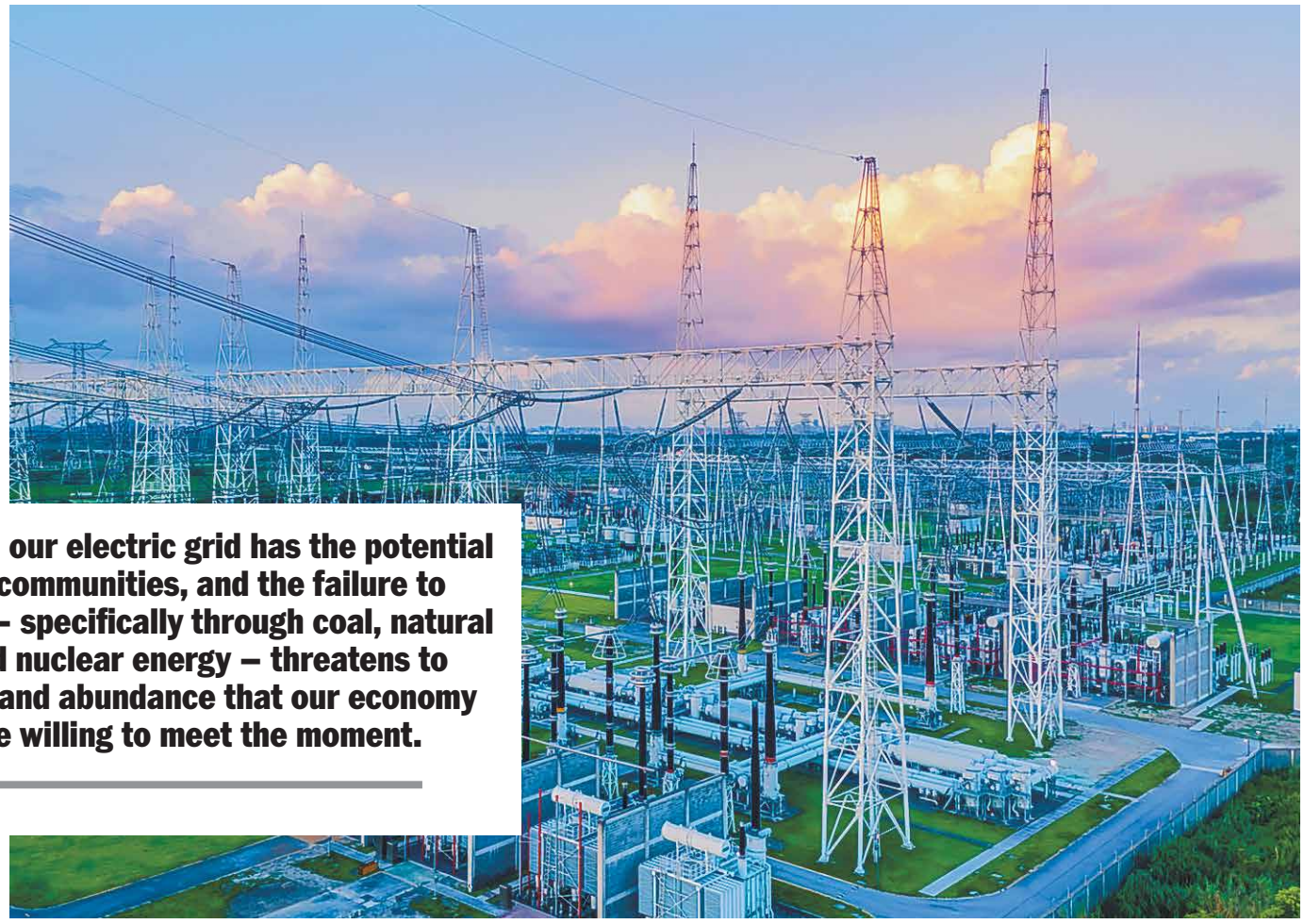
✔	EXPANDED AMERICA'S LNG EXPORTS, EMPOWERING OUR ALLIES
✔	REINVIGORATED OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION WITH NEW LEASES
✔	ERASED BIDEN'S OIL & GAS LEASING MORATORIUM
✔	ELIMINATED THE CIVILIAN CLIMATE CORPS AND FEDERAL AGENCY CLIMATE OFFICES
✔	PRESSED "PLAY" AND ENDED THE LNG PAUSE
✔	MADE COAL GREAT AGAIN
✔	**UNLEASHED AMERICAN ENERGY DOMINANCE!**



It takes energy to move commerce

By U.S. Rep. Brett Guthrie, R-Kent.

Former Energy and Commerce Chairman John Dingell, D-Mich., used to say: "If it moves, it's energy, and if it doesn't, it's commerce." Chairman Dingell was right; but my corollary would be that it takes energy to move commerce.



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The increasing strain on our electric grid has the potential to cripple American communities, and the failure to provide reliable power – specifically through coal, natural gas, hydropower, and nuclear energy – threatens to jeopardize the growth and abundance that our economy can provide if we're willing to meet the moment.

Time and time again, we've seen that producing affordable and reliable energy leads to greater innovation, a strong economy, and family-sustaining jobs.

As chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, I'm committed to ensuring we harness our nation's resources to generate significant increases in baseload, dispatchable power to lower prices, secure our grid, and restore our nation's energy dominance.

To accomplish these goals, we will need to adopt sound and thoughtful policies that encourage investment and promote innovation across our energy industry.

For the past four years under the Biden-Harris Administration, we saw energy policies that shut down new oil and natural gas exploration, created taxpayer-funded bailouts to wind and solar projects that failed to meet our energy demand, and depleted the Strategic Petroleum Reserve that made our nation less safe.

The increasing strain on our electric grid has the potential to cripple American communities, and the failure to provide reliable power — specifically through coal, natural gas, hydropower, and nuclear energy — threatens to jeopardize the growth and abundance that our economy can provide if we're willing to meet the moment.

Across the Atlantic, we've seen the consequences of turning away from natural gas and nuclear energy. Europe's energy crisis was avoidable and even predictable.

But with that knowledge, it's important that we work quickly to bring more dispatchable power online to ensure that rolling blackouts and brownouts do not become a common occurrence across the country as they already have in states like California.

Our committee has already passed legislation to address our nation's energy demands. Last month, President Trump signed a Congressional Review Act resolution to end the Waste Emissions Charge (WEC) put in place by President Joe Biden in November. The WEC was a tax on natural gas that would have imposed heavy burdens on operators across the energy supply chain, increasing our dependence on foreign energy sources and raising prices for American families.

Attempting to levy this tax at a time when we are already seeing the premature retirement of energy resources and greater demands being put on our electric grid was irresponsible, and I'm proud that our committee was able to work with President Trump to ensure this tax did not take effect. But this is not enough.

To keep our nation at the cutting edge of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies, we must bring massive amounts of new energy online over the next decade. Developing and deploying AI at scale will require doubling or even tripling our electricity load growth by 2028.

An AI data center is effectively converting energy into intelligence and at a scale we've never before experienced. This calls for transformative approaches to producing affordable and reliable electricity.

The Committee on Energy and Commerce has already held numerous hearings on increasing energy availability, supporting our grid, and examining implications for the AI economy. What we have repeatedly heard from grid operators is that the U.S. grid is out of balance – and we are in desperate need of more on-demand, dispatchable generation.

A dynamic, innovative, and prolific energy industry has driven generations of growth and prosperity for our country. From oil and gas in Texas and Ohio to nuclear power in Georgia and South Carolina to coal in Pennsylvania and Kentucky, our country has been blessed with abundant natural resources and the world-changing technology needed to harness those resources.

In the weeks ahead, my committee will continue to move legislation that supports our grid, helps to supply the energy needed to win the race for AI, and restores our nation to energy dominance. The American people have given us an opportunity to refocus our energy policy in a way that lifts our communities instead of holding them back. I am proud to be at the forefront of an effort that unites so much of this country, and I am confident that by unleashing American energy, we can unleash the American dream.

Rep. Brett Guthrie represents Kentucky's 2nd congressional district. Following his military service in the Army, Guthrie joined a Bowling Green, Kent., based manufacturing business that was started by his father and represented the 32nd district in the Kentucky Senate. Guthrie was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2008 and serves as the chairman of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

The time to forge America's nuclear energy future is now

By U.S. Rep. Chuck Fleischmann, R-Tenn.

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We are at a pivotal moment in energy production that will define our nation and the world for the remainder of the 21st century. Investment and support for nuclear power have reached levels we haven't seen in decades, and now is the time to seize the opportunity to forge America's New Nuclear Future.

America and the world need more energy.

Revolutionary advancements in artificial intelligence, the widespread adoption of cryptocurrencies, the explosive growth of new industries, and surging electrification of everyday life are propelling our nation and the globe toward a situation where demand far exceeds the supply that utility companies can provide. An energy shortage in the United States or among our allies would not only compromise our energy independence but also jeopardize our national security and destabilize the global economy. We must take decisive action to prevent this. To stop a potentially catastrophic energy crisis, I am working every day as chairman of Energy and Water Appropriations to unleash American-made energy, especially new nuclear power, and collaborate closely with President Trump's administration to make America energy abundant again to protect our future.

We are at a pivotal moment in energy production that will define our nation and the world for the remainder of the 21st century. Investment and support for nuclear power have reached levels we haven't seen in decades, and now is the time to seize the opportunity to forge America's New Nuclear Future.

Whenever I'm asked, "What do you do as Chairman of Energy and Water Appropriations?" I clearly state: "I lead the charge to fund federal investments in energy projects and expand new nuclear initiatives across the country." Under my subcommittee chairmanship, we have secured historic investments in new and advanced nuclear energy and bringing back our industrial base. We are revitalizing our domestic nuclear industry through strong public-private partnerships after decades of decline and poor policy decisions.

During the aftermath of the Cold War, for instance, we wrongly decided to export our ability to domestically enrich uranium to Russia, a massive national security and economic blunder. Decades later, we see the absurdity of outsourcing the production of enriched uranium to an adversarial and authoritarian nation as we struggle with an increasingly difficult supply chain. Enriched uranium is an essential component for modernizing our nuclear deterrent and powering nuclear reactors. This is why effective public-private partnerships between the federal government and private sector companies are crucial to rebuilding our defense industrial base, reshoring critical material supply chains, and winning the global race to generate more affordable, reliable power.

We are facing tight fiscal times, and it's crucial to act decisively. The Biden administration's unchecked spending resulted in trillions of dollars wasted without yielding real benefits for the American people and contributing to record-high inflation rates. As part of President Donald Trump's plan to steer our country back on course, the conservative majority on the House Appropriations Committee is resolutely focused on ensuring that every dollar is strategically invested in projects that have the best chance of success rather than squandered on lofty clean energy targets that assume a different energy reality than the one we must confront today. As I prepare to draft the Fiscal Year 2026 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I am confident in my strong partnerships with outstanding leaders like Department of Energy Secretary Chris Wright and Department of the Interior Secretary Doug Burgum to identify energy projects that warrant public support and will help our nation.

To usher in America's new Golden Age, we must have abundant, affordable, and reliable power. I am committed to ensuring that the United States leads in new nuclear and power generation so America's future prosperity, energy independence, and national security are secured for generations to come. The time to act is now.

Rep. Chuck Fleischmann is the chairman of the Energy and Water Subcommittee of Appropriations and also serves on the Energy Subcommittee of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee. As chairman of Energy and Water, Fleischmann leads the charge to provide funding for the federal agencies and programs responsible for the United States' national laboratories, water and energy infrastructure, nuclear security, and energy independence.

Utility-scale energy storage is the foundation for energy dominance

By Scott Bolton

Affordable and abundant American energy made the United States the global economic powerhouse it is today, and energy independence will be critical to our continued success.

Incentives don't just move energy independence forward; they move the American economy forward.

That simple truth is at the heart of President Donald Trump's recent executive orders, with their commitment to promote policies that "protect the United States's economic and national security and military preparedness by ensuring that an abundant supply of reliable energy is readily accessible in every State and territory of the Nation."

Our nation's electricity grids are powered by everything from coal and natural gas to hydro, geothermal, wind, solar, nuclear, and beyond. Ours is an all-of-the-above energy system. But it is straining to meet rapidly increasing (and increasingly dynamic) growth and power quality demands.

To strengthen this system and put the country on the path to true energy dominance, there is another crucial ingredient needed. We need long-duration, utility-scale energy storage that's built to last – and made on our soil. With the right kind of storage in place, America can maximize the energy-generating capacity of all our existing resources listed above, equipping the grid to adapt to changing demands and evolving technology.

The good news is that the energy storage industry is ready to meet this challenge. But we can't get there without smart policies and strategic support.

In Kern County, California — one of America's leading energy-producing regions — Hydrostor is currently hard at work to put the country on the path towards true energy dominance. Our flagship investment, the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center, will provide 500 MW of capacity and more than eight hours of energy storage for Central California through its proven technology — Advanced Compressed Air Energy Storage (A-CAES).

Hydrostor's approach to storing energy is simple and ready. When excess power is available on the grid, we use it to pump compressed air into large underground caverns, where it's stored as future energy. When the grid needs that power back, we reverse the storage process. Innovations like heat capture and hydrostatic pressure improve our efficiency and allow us to site projects where they're needed – close to load centers and transmission lines.

But the big news is about the actual impact.

With the Kern County project — the first of many in our 7-gigawatt pipeline — we'll employ more than 6,500 people (700 on-site at peak) during our 60-month construction phase, with a payroll of nearly $500 million. Once operational, Willow Rock will sustain approximately 40 highly skilled, full-time jobs for the entirety of the plant's more than 50-year lifespan. Even better, this project can be replicated in any state and strategically located to best serve regional energy needs.

This type of innovation is what our nation's energy system and economy need. As the USA works to onshore industrial production rapidly, Willow Rock will draw on critical domestic supply chains and our deep pool of skilled labor from the oil and gas sector, all while reducing reliance on foreign rare-earth minerals, and fostering greater energy security, reliability, and resilience.

Our project and others like it have real momentum, but we can't build the future of energy in a vacuum.

It takes years for large infrastructure projects like these to navigate the complexities of permitting, financing, and construction. Private capital initially balks at these extended timelines, especially given the nascent nature of many promising energy storage technologies. Before making big, long-term commitments, investors look for a supportive ecosystem and evidence of broader buy-in.

In the case of Willow Rock, some of that ecosystem is already in place. Incentives including the Clean Electricity Investment Tax Credit (§ 48E) and the Domestic Content Bonus Credit have helped create a favorable environment for the project, by offering significant tax advantages to qualified investments in energy storage technology.

Additionally, the U.S. Department of Energy's Loan Programs Office continues to be a vital partner in advancing Willow Rock, providing a conditional commitment of up to $1.76 billion in loan guarantees to get the project built – which will help to stabilize the grid, ensure reliable energy, and reduce consumer electricity costs. This is simply return on investment.

As we look to make good on the spirit of President Trump's executive orders, we need to ensure that programs like these continue and grow.

Make no mistake; this is not about a government giveaway. It is about government as a partner in American progress. Incentives don't just move energy independence forward; they move the American economy forward.

Tax incentives and loan guarantees are smart investments in the future America deserves: one where an abundant supply of reliable energy is readily accessible to meet American needs and maintain global energy leadership, where robust supply chains reduce reliance on adversarial nations, and where skilled American tradespeople build thriving lives for themselves and their families as they build and maintain modern energy infrastructure for all of us.

Scott Bolton is executive vice president for Global Policy and Regulatory Affairs at Hydrostor.

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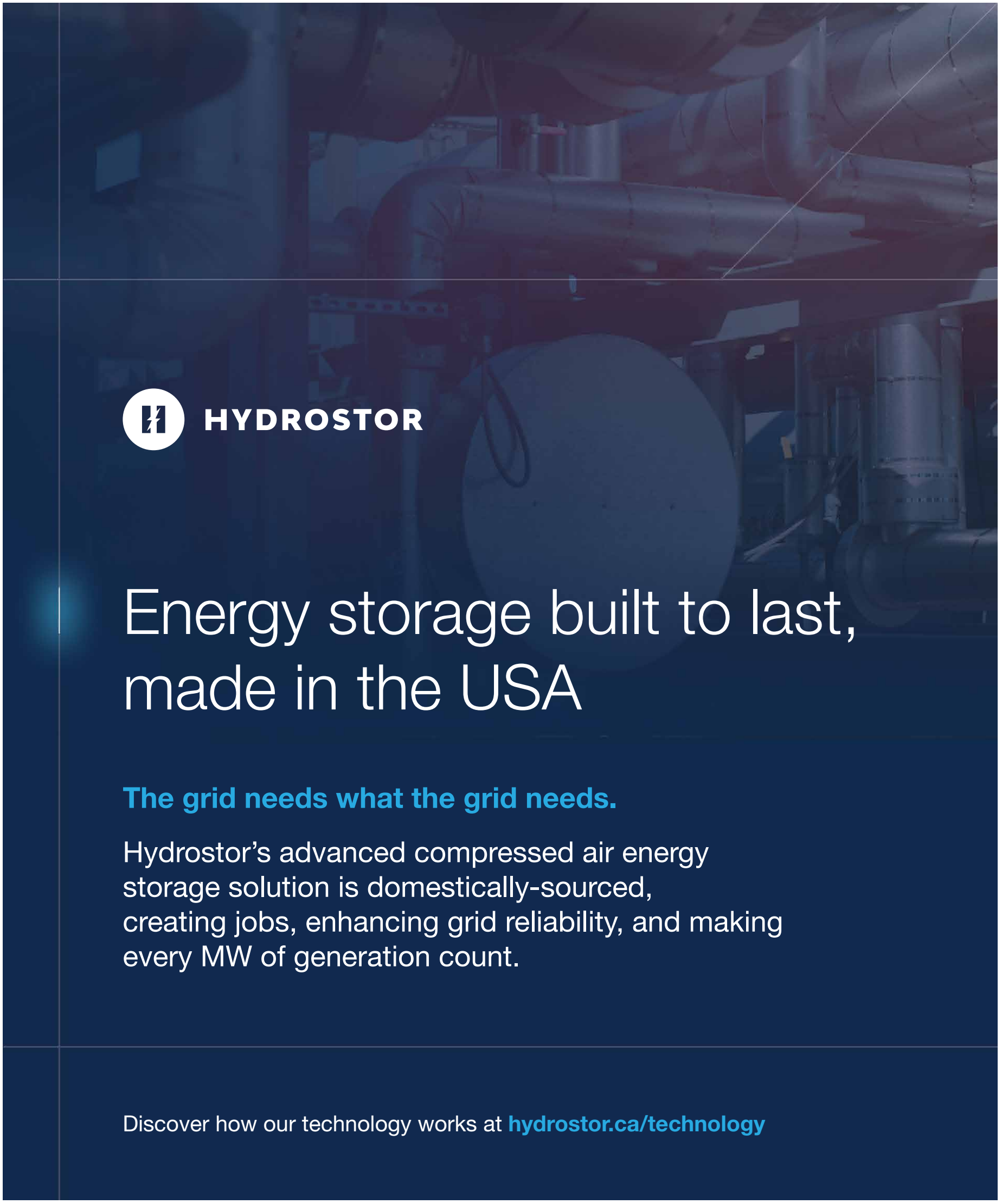
Willow Rock is a 500 MW Advanced Compressed Air Energy Storage (A-CAES) facility that is under late-stage development in California.



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Securing America's energy future: The American Energy Dominance Caucus

By U.S Rep. Marc Veasey, D-Texas

America stands at a pivotal moment for our energy future. With global conflicts disrupting supply chains, inflation straining working families, and the energy transition demanding both innovation and pragmatism, we must navigate a path forward that guarantees energy security, affordability, and sustainability. This is why I was proud to co-found the American Energy Dominance Caucus alongside my colleague, Rep. Chuck Fleischmann, R-Tenn.

The name of our caucus is intentional. "Dominance" in energy doesn't mean favoring one resource over another — it means ensuring that the United States leads in every aspect of energy policy. Whether it's strengthening our electric grid with cutting-edge storage technology, harnessing the power of renewables and nuclear energy, or expanding domestic oil and gas production, our goal is clear: to make the United States the most reliable and innovative energy powerhouse in the world.

"Dominance" in energy doesn't mean favoring one resource over another – it means ensuring that the United States leads in every aspect of energy policy.

A bipartisan commitment to energy security

Energy policy should transcend partisan divisions. No matter where you live — whether in Texas, Tennessee, or anywhere across this great nation — access to reliable, affordable energy is essential. The American Energy Dominance Caucus is committed to working across the aisle to ensure that American energy continues to drive economic growth, job creation, and national security. We recognize that different states have different energy strengths, and a strong national strategy leverages all of them.

My home state of Texas has long been a leader in oil and gas production, providing good-paying jobs and fueling our economy. But Texas has also emerged as a leader in wind and solar energy. We shouldn't have to choose between these energy sources; we should embrace an "all-of-the-above" approach that balances immediate energy needs with long-term innovation.

Strengthening domestic production and infrastructure

To secure American energy dominance, we must increase domestic production and modernize our energy infrastructure. Recent global supply chain disruptions have underscored the risks of relying on foreign energy sources. We cannot afford to be vulnerable to geopolitical instability when it comes to our energy security.

This means investing strategically in pipelines, transmission lines, and refining capacity to ensure that energy — whether fossil fuels, renewables, or nuclear — can be transported and utilized efficiently. Permitting reform is a key part of this conversation. Delays in energy infrastructure projects not only drive up costs but also slow our progress toward a more resilient energy system. We need a permitting process that is both thorough and timely, enabling responsible development while maintaining environmental protections.

At its core, this approach is about building more, investing in innovation, and ensuring our economy operates at its full potential. The U.S. can provide affordable, abundant energy to every American household and business if we remove unnecessary roadblocks and invest strategically in infrastructure.

Affordability and consumer relief

High energy prices hurt families and businesses alike. Our caucus will advocate for policies that reduce costs for consumers while allowing energy companies to innovate and expand production. This includes supporting domestic energy production to reduce our reliance on imports, investing in new technologies that improve efficiency, and pushing for market reforms that prevent price gouging and volatility.

Energy affordability extends beyond gasoline prices. It impacts home heating bills, electricity costs, and the ability of industries to remain competitive. When energy prices are stable and predictable, businesses can plan for growth, and families can budget with confidence.

Innovation and the energy transition

Energy dominance is not solely about what we have today; it's about preparing for the future. The United States must lead in the next generation of energy technologies — from advanced nuclear reactors to carbon capture, from hydrogen fuel to battery storage.

Public-private partnerships will play a key role in making these innovations commercially viable. The federal government should fund early-stage research and development while ensuring private industry has the incentives and market conditions to scale these breakthroughs.

We must also focus on removing barriers to innovation. This includes streamlining regulatory processes so that energy startups can scale faster, supporting domestic supply chains for critical minerals, and ensuring that the U.S. remains the best place in the world to launch and commercialize new energy solutions.

Additionally, we must prepare the workforce of tomorrow for the jobs these new technologies will create. From skilled trades in construction and maintenance to engineers and researchers developing next-generation solutions, investing in workforce development is key to America's long-term energy leadership.

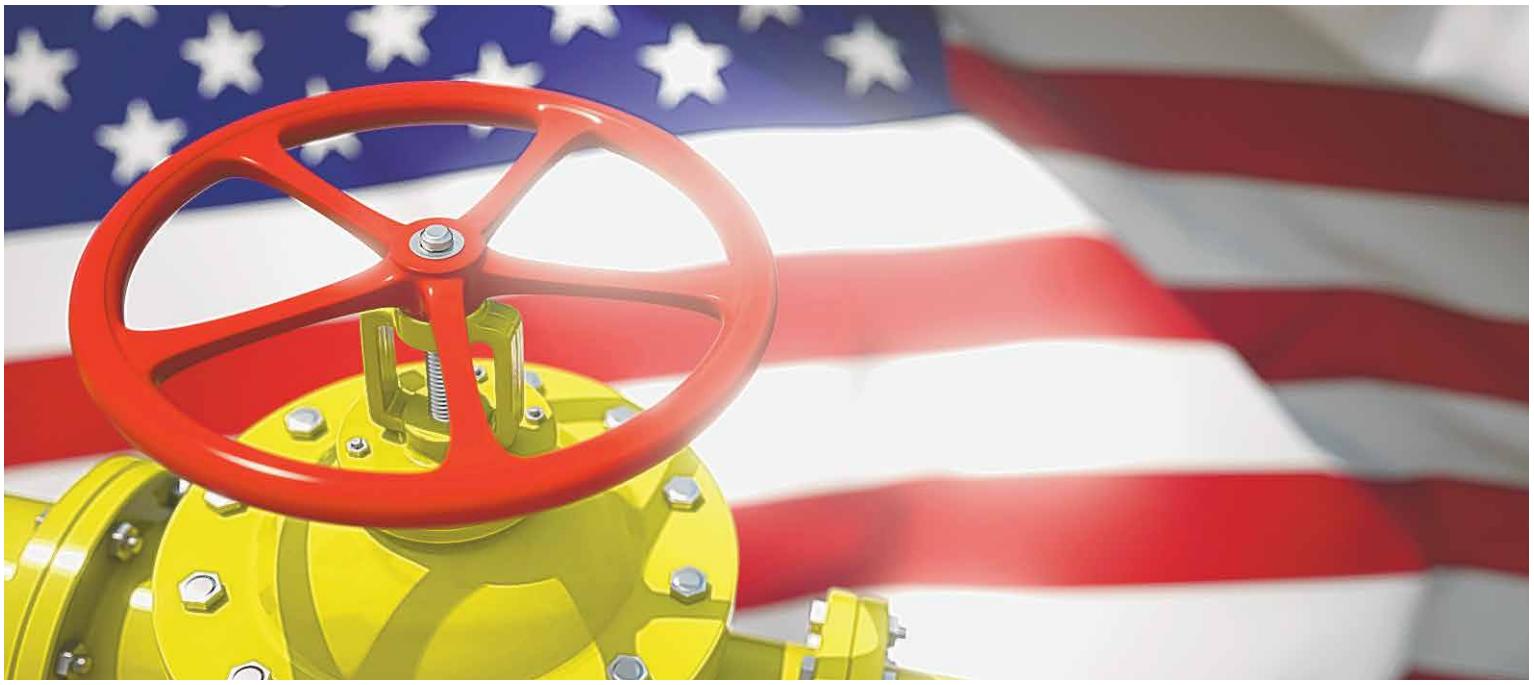
A call for pragmatism and leadership

The American Energy Dominance Caucus is not about political rhetoric — it's about results. We need an energy policy that recognizes the strengths of traditional energy industries while embracing the potential of new innovations.

I invite my colleagues, industry leaders, and energy experts to join us in a broad, fact-based discussion about how we can secure America's energy future. This isn't just an economic issue; it's a matter of national security, global leadership, and prosperity for future generations.

The United States has always been at its best when it leads with strength, ingenuity, and determination. By embracing a comprehensive energy policy, we can ensure that America remains the world's energy leader — not just today, but for decades to come.

Rep. Marc Veasey, a dedicated public servant from Texas, has built a reputation as a leader in energy policy and bipartisan solutions. As a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Veasey plays a pivotal role in shaping national energy strategy, focusing on American energy security, affordability, and innovation. He recently launched the American Energy Dominance Caucus, aiming to enhance the U.S. role in global energy markets while fostering job creation and economic growth. Rep. Veasey serves on several key subcommittees, including the Subcommittee on Energy, the Subcommittee on Health, and the Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Subcommittee.



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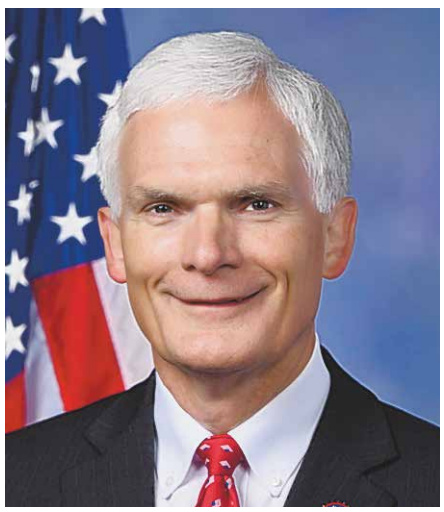
A plan for American energy dominance



By U.S. Rep. Bob Latta, R-Ohio

With global tensions on the rise and energy prices increasing across the country, the new administration has made one thing quite clear: American energy dominance is no longer a goal-it's a necessity. As chairman of the Energy Subcommittee on the Energy and Commerce Committee, I'm committed to advancing an all-of -the-above energy approach that strengthens our economy, protects out national security, and puts American workers first. We must come together not only to reverse the damage caused by the Biden administration's misguided policies, but also to build a resilient, proactive energy future that prioritizes innovation, affordability, and reliability.

I firmly believe that we need to produce more energy in this country, not less. At a recent Energy Subcommittee hearing, I asked the Regional Transmission Organizations (RTO) and Independent System Operators (ISO) if America needs more or less energy to meet demand. Every witness said America needs to produce more energy to meet the growing demand. At the same time, they all agreed that we can't be taking current generation offline. More energy is needed for consumers, small and large manufacturers, agriculture, and medical facilities.

What is the largest contributing factor for our growing energy needs? AI data centers. The RTO PJM has stated that "demand for electricity is growing at the fastest pace in years, primarily from the proliferation of data centers, electrification of buildings and vehicles, and manufacturing." PJM goes on to state that capacity shortage could affect their system in the 2026-2027 delivery year. When it comes to AI, this is a race that the United States can't lose to the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The CCP isn't waiting to construct more energy plants. It has issued permits for fifty more coal generation facilities, which is an average of two every week. Its goal is to produce more than 94.5 gigawatts of power.

The Department of Energy reported that data centers' load growth tripled over the past decade, and will likely double to triple in the next three years. To show what this means, data centers consumed 4.4% of all electricity in 2023, and could consume up to 12% of electricity in 2028. Again, in our hearings, witnesses testified that U.S. forecasts for additional power will be 92 to 128 gigawatts in the next ten years.

I truly believe in the all-of-the-above energy strategy. It means that the federal government doesn't pick winners and losers. We must use what we have-from our traditional sources to our renewables. In the last Congress, I introduced the Nuclear REFUEL Act, REFINER Act, and the Secure Grid Act, bills that will help rebuild our energy independence. Nuclear energy will help to contribute to our energy needs through traditional and small modular reactors. We must not forget that in the not-too-distant past, we were told the United States didn't have enough natural gas. However, American know-how has made the United States the largest producer of natural gas that serves not only our interests but also in exporting LNG across the globe.

We must not forget that in the not-too-distant past, we were told the United States didn't have enough natural gas. However, American know-how has made the United States the largest producer of natural gas that serves not only our interests but also in exporting LNG across the globe.

As we talk of all our energy production needs, it is just as important to focus on transmission and distribution improvements. Our grid needs modernizing for the massive increases in energy demand. We have to have secure supply chains to meet the future and focus on grid cyber security protections. One other major piece of legislation that Congress must pass is permitting. Projects can't be in limbo for years. We need to get this done and fast. From bringing the energy up, to generation, to transmission, and to distribution, permitting will be essential for energy growth.

I know how important affordable energy is to our nation. My district, Ohio's 5th congressional district, is home to over 86,000 manufacturing jobs and has the largest farm income producing district in the state. We rely on energy in every aspect of lives. That's why in the 119th Congress, I look forward to introducing legislation that prioritizes innovation, affordability, and reliability in our energy sector.

In the coming years, it's critical we produce the power needed to meet the growing demands of the electric grid, especially as data centers are constructed to support America's leadership in the advancement of AI technology. The United States must be as much energy independent as possible, so as a country we can thrive and grow together-being less reliant for our everyday energy needs other countries. Energy security is national security.

Rep. Bob Latta is a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee. He is chair of the Energy Subcommittee and is a member of the Communications and Technology as well as the Environment Subcommittee. He is also a member of the House Energy Action Team and the Conservative Climate Caucus.

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The path to energy dominance and a clean energy future

By Rich Powell

In today's rapidly evolving global landscape, the pursuit of energy independence and the transition to clean energy are not just aspirational goals — they are imperative for our economic stability, national security, and environmental sustainability.

Electricity demand in the United States is expected to increase 50% by 2050, according to the National Electrical Manufacturers Association. Data centers, manufacturing, and transportation infrastructure are the primary drivers of this demand. The United States must embrace a wide range of energy sources to meet this load growth, including nuclear, natural gas with carbon capture, hydropower, solar, geothermal, wind, and long duration energy storage, which are all instrumental in ensuring America's competitive advantage.

The Clean Energy Buyers Association's (CEBA's) members are pursuing innovative solutions to help meet the demand. CEBA represents over 400 members including energy customers and partners, commercial and industrial companies, universities, and cities. In all, they represent more than $20 trillion in market capitalization.

Our members are leading the charge to power data centers for technological advancement, boost economic growth, and produce low-cost, reliable energy. Their commitment to investing in clean energy is unleashing a wave of rapid economic development across the United States and around the world. By leveraging the collective power of major customers, we can accelerate the transition to a clean energy future and ensure that it is accessible and affordable for all.

Clean energy sources also contribute to economic growth. The data center industry created 4.7 million jobs in 2023, a 60% increase from 2017. A February report by Pricewaterhouse Coopers noted the industry's contribution to gross domestic product rose from $355 billion in 2017 to $727 billion in 2023, marking a 105% increase. Using clean energy to power these centers significantly contributes to the economy and U.S. job creation.

By investing in clean energy and energy-efficient technologies, we can ensure that the power sector remains resilient and capable of supporting the transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI). CEBA members are eager to unleash clean energy and achieve American energy dominance.

By leveraging the collective power of major customers, we can accelerate the transition to a clean energy future and ensure that it is accessible and affordable for all.

But burdensome permitting rules have been holding up energy production, with some current regulations delaying job creating energy and transmission projects. That's why CEBA supports modernizing permitting rules to establish efficient environmental reviews. Permitting modernization that accelerates approvals of clean energy generation projects, upgrades to existing grids, and much-needed new transmission capacity will help achieve the national energy dominance America needs to fuel our economy.

CEBA members are leading the way: CEBA members have achieved an impressive milestone of 100 gigawatts (GW) of clean energy contracts globally since 2014. That's enough to power 75 million homes.

This achievement underscores corporations' growing commitment to clean energy. In 2024 alone, CEBA's member companies procured 21.7 GW of clean energy, marking the highest annual total to date.

These contracts are not just numbers; they represent tangible progress in reducing carbon emissions and fostering sustainable growth. As we invest in clean energy technologies, we are stimulating local economies and enhancing energy security.

The journey toward energy independence and a clean energy future requires collaboration and innovation. Policymakers, businesses, and communities must work together to overcome market and policy barriers.

It is an incredibly exciting time to be part of this transformation, and CEBA and our members and partners are eager to advance our shared goal of customer-driven clean energy for all. We look forward to working with the Trump administration as well as Republicans and Democrats in Congress to continue to play a major role in America's energy dominance and to build a resilient, prosperous future for generations to come.

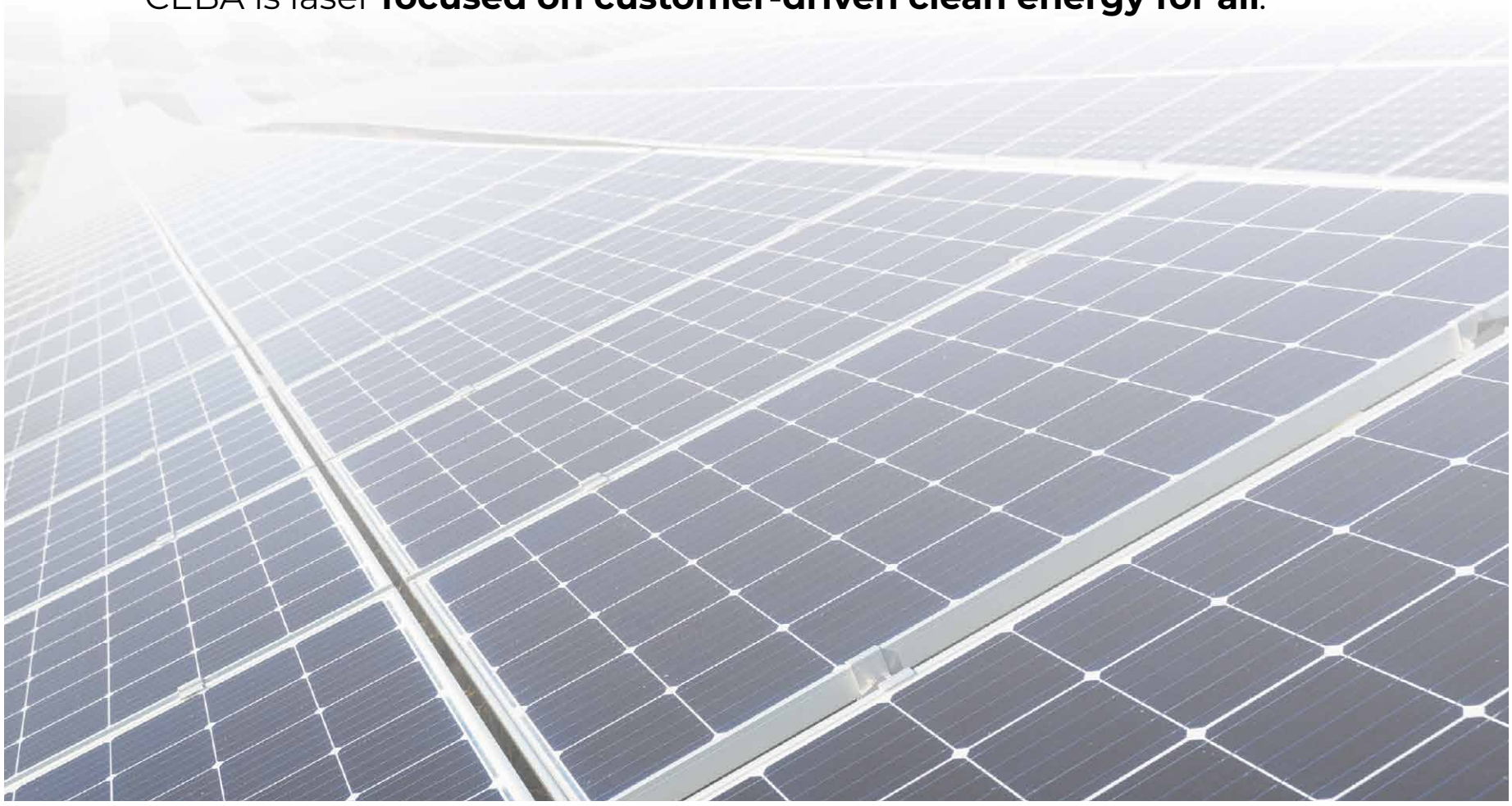
Rich Powell is the CEO of Clean Energy Buyers Association (CEBA), a business association with 400 members including energy buyers and partners dedicated to advancing low-cost, reliable, carbon emissions-free global electricity systems.

CEBA

Clean Energy Buyers Association

The Clean Energy Buyers Association (CEBA) activates energy buyers and partners to advance low-cost, reliable, carbon emissions free global energy systems.

Whether it's through convening and educating our members, advocating on the Hill, or engaging stakeholders in the community, CEBA is laser **focused on customer-driven clean energy for all**.



The world runs on Southeast Texas energy

By U.S. Rep. Randy Weber, R-Texas

When America needs energy, it turns to Texas — and more specifically, to Southeast Texas. We don't just refine oil or export gas. We fuel economies, empower allies, and protect national security. In short: we are the energy capital of the world.

We have four years to do a lot of important work that has been neglected for years. If we want to continue our energy dominance, we must double down on Southeast Texas.

Our energy sector supports millions of well-paying jobs across America and tens of thousands of those are in Southeast Texas. These are jobs that don't require four-year degrees, but do demand skill, grit, and the kind of work ethic that built this county. Welders, pipefitters, engineers, rig hands, terminal operators, truck drivers, safety techs – this is the American workforce at its best.

Now, you might be asking yourself: what sets Southeast Texas apart?

We are uniquely positioned on the Gulf of America, home to seven of the nation's busiest ports that move our precious cargo, and the host to some of the most critical refineries in the country. That includes the Motiva refinery in Port Arthur — the largest in the entire United States. Add in Valero, TotalEnergies, and ExxonMobil's massive refining and chemical complex in Beaumont, plus Marathon's operations in Texas City, and the message is clear: we don't just refine oil in Southeast Texas — we lead the world in it.

Our region is also a powerhouse in liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports, with world-class facilities like Golden Pass, Port Arthur and Freeport LNG leading the charge on the global stage. And thanks to President Donald Trump undoing the damage and pause that President Joe Biden placed on our LNG exports, Southeast Texas will lead the world in exporting LNG to our allies, helping them break free from dependence on authoritarian regimes.

Meanwhile, petrochemical plants in our region like Dow, Huntsman, and BASF in Freeport are supplying everything from medical equipment to everyday plastics. Our products don't just run cars and trucks — they support hospitals, manufacturers, and every American household.

We are also home to new and emerging forms of energy, including hydrogen, carbon capture, sustainable aviation fuel, ammonia, bio- and renewable-diesel, and renewables — all made possible because of the deep industrial expertise, infrastructure, and workforce already here.

Under four years of Democratic control of the White House, Southeast Texas saw delays, green mandates, permitting slow-walks, and hostility toward the very industries that make our economy run.

That has all changed. On Day One, President Trump declared a National Energy Emergency because he knew what so many of us have been saying all along — *we weren't producing energy at the level America needs*. We weren't leaning into the industry that built this country.

President Trump knows American energy is the cornerstone of American strength — and that having efficient, reliable, and affordable energy is the key to *lowering costs, growing jobs, and protecting our national security*.

We have four years to do a lot of important work that has been neglected for years. If we want to continue our energy dominance, we must double down on Southeast Texas.

That means investing in critical infrastructure — pipelines, ports, and power grids — to move our products faster and safer. It means cutting the red tape that delays permits and discourages innovation. It means unleashing the full potential of LNG, hydrogen, and carbon capture, and empowering the hardworking men and women who keep our energy economy running.

And most importantly, it means fighting for an energy strategy that puts America first — not Beijing, not Brussels, not the radical green lobby.

The road to American energy independence doesn't run through Washington. It runs through Southeast Texas — through the refineries of Port Arthur, the chemical plants of Beaumont, the terminals of Sabine Pass, and the grit and determination of the people who live and work here.

President Trump understands that. He's focused on restoring America's energy dominance — and he knows it starts right here.

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Oil refinery in Beaumont-Port Arthur metropolitan area, located in Southeast Texas.

So let's lean in. Let's stand tall. Let's remind the rest of the country where their electricity comes from, where their gas is refined, and where the future of American energy is being built.

When America needs energy, it turns to Texas. And when Texas gets to work — the world takes notice.

Rep. Randy Weber represents Texas' 14th Congressional District. He serves as vice chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Energy Subcommittee and as chairman of the Energy Subcommittee on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee. He also serves as vice chair of the House Energy Action Team. A former small business owner, Weber spent decades running his own air conditioning company and brings that same common-sense, pro-jobs approach to Congress.

Permitting needs an Operation Warp Speed

By U.S. Rep. Buddy Carter, R-Ga.

We need an Operation Warp Speed for permitting reform, and President Donald J. Trump is exactly the leader who can make it happen.

In 2022, the Port of Savannah, which I am proud to represent, completed its harbor deepening project. To accommodate larger ships, it needed to dredge the channel from 42 feet to 47 feet. The permitting for this project began in 1997. That means it took 25 years to get from the initial permitting application to project completion, just to deepen an existing channel by 5 feet.

If the United States is going to be competitive on the world stage, we must get our burdensome permitting processes under control.

In that same amount of time, China was able to start and finish building three entirely new ports.

If the United States is going to be competitive on the world stage, we must get our burdensome permitting processes under control. I don't care what industry you're talking about, whether it's pharmaceuticals, communications technology, or energy, the message is the same: permitting is crushing us. I would even submit that there is bipartisan agreement that something needs to be done about our unnecessarily slow and redundant permitting landscape across all sectors.

It's time we turned this talk into action.

This administration took a vitally important step forward to enact this vision when it established the National Energy Dominance Council. This group is responsible for lowering prices, strengthening economic security, and restoring American energy dominance, all of which can and must be accomplished through permitting reforms. Just as President Trump was able to mobilize the government to streamline approval processes for the development of a COVID-19 vaccine, this council has the potential to streamline and improve the permitting process so that we can start building again in this country.

It is imperative that we employ this council to the fullest extent and that it doesn't go away when we have a new commander in chief. I have introduced a bill to make this council permanent, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

In addition, we cannot have a conversation about American energy dominance and permitting reforms without discussing critical minerals. Currently, about 70% of U.S. rare earth minerals come from China. This means that we are nearly entirely dependent on a hostile foreign nation for components used in everything from smart phones to car batteries to solar panels. China recently restricted the exporting of six heavy rare earth metals we need to produce powerful magnets. What happens if China decides to cut off the rest of our critical mineral supply? We can, and must, increase the capabilities of the United States and our allies to produce and refine critical minerals, which will help us avoid a potentially catastrophic global supply chain crisis.

Of course, unreasonable permitting regulations are the driving force behind our nation's impotent critical mineral economy. That's why I introduced the Streamlining Critical Mineral Permitting Act, which will speed up the permitting process for facilities that process or refine critical minerals here in the United States without sacrificing environmental protections.

These are the types of policies that the National Energy Dominance Council should be championing, and I am willing to work with them to implement this commonsense proposal.

But this is just one element of a complex system that needs comprehensive reform, looking at the entire scope of government for ways to better meet the needs of our current market rather than feed the bureaucratic machine.

President Trump has brought big ideas back to Washington. I'll admit this is a big idea; but, I wasn't sent to Congress to maintain the status quo. I, like every member of Congress, was elected to represent my constituents' best interests in Washington, D.C.

The American people are clamoring for a whole-of-government approach to permitting reform, and it is high time politicians started listening.

Rep. Buddy Carter, a pharmacist by trade, sits on the House Budget Committee and Energy and Commerce Committee, where he chairs the Subcommittee on Health.

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Talmadge Memorial Bridge over savannah river at dusk.

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Aviation fuel made in America, for America

By Kevin Welsh

Increased SAF production has the potential for significant growth, economic benefits and job creation across the U.S. economy including in the agriculture, energy, transportation and manufacturing sectors.

With President Donald Trump's focus on American energy dominance, increasing U.S. energy production and generation is a top priority of the administration that recognizes the importance of lowering energy prices for families and increasing American economic security.

U.S. airlines understand and support President Trump's focus on American energy dominance. As one of the most significant and volatile operating costs for airlines, jet fuel is a key element in providing safe, reliable and cost-competitive air travel for more than 2.7 million Americans and transporting 61,000 tons of cargo by air every day.

A promising and growing source of U.S. energy is the production of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), which is jet fuel derived from renewable sources including waste, oils, fats and agricultural products, among other sources. Already in 2024, reflecting years of government and industry collaboration, over 100 million gallons of SAF were available in the United States, but this amount is still a small fraction the 26-billion-gallon U.S. jet fuel market. As a result, increased SAF production has the potential for significant growth, economic benefits and job creation across the U.S. economy including in the agriculture, energy, transportation and manufacturing sectors.

Achieving significantly increased U.S. SAF production and tapping America's extensive resources for it, however, will not succeed without effective policies and incentives to catalyze the full potential.

Fortunately, members of Congress in both the House and Senate recognize the potential of SAF and have introduced legislation to support its growth. For example, Rep. Max Miller (R-Ohio), recently reintroduced the "Farm to Fly" Act in the House and Sen. Jerry Moran (R-Kansas) introduced companion legislation in the Senate. These bills would help foster the development of SAF within the confines of existing U.S. Department of Agriculture programs, enabling collaboration between America's farmers, fuel producers and airlines while also supporting the U.S. energy dominance agenda.

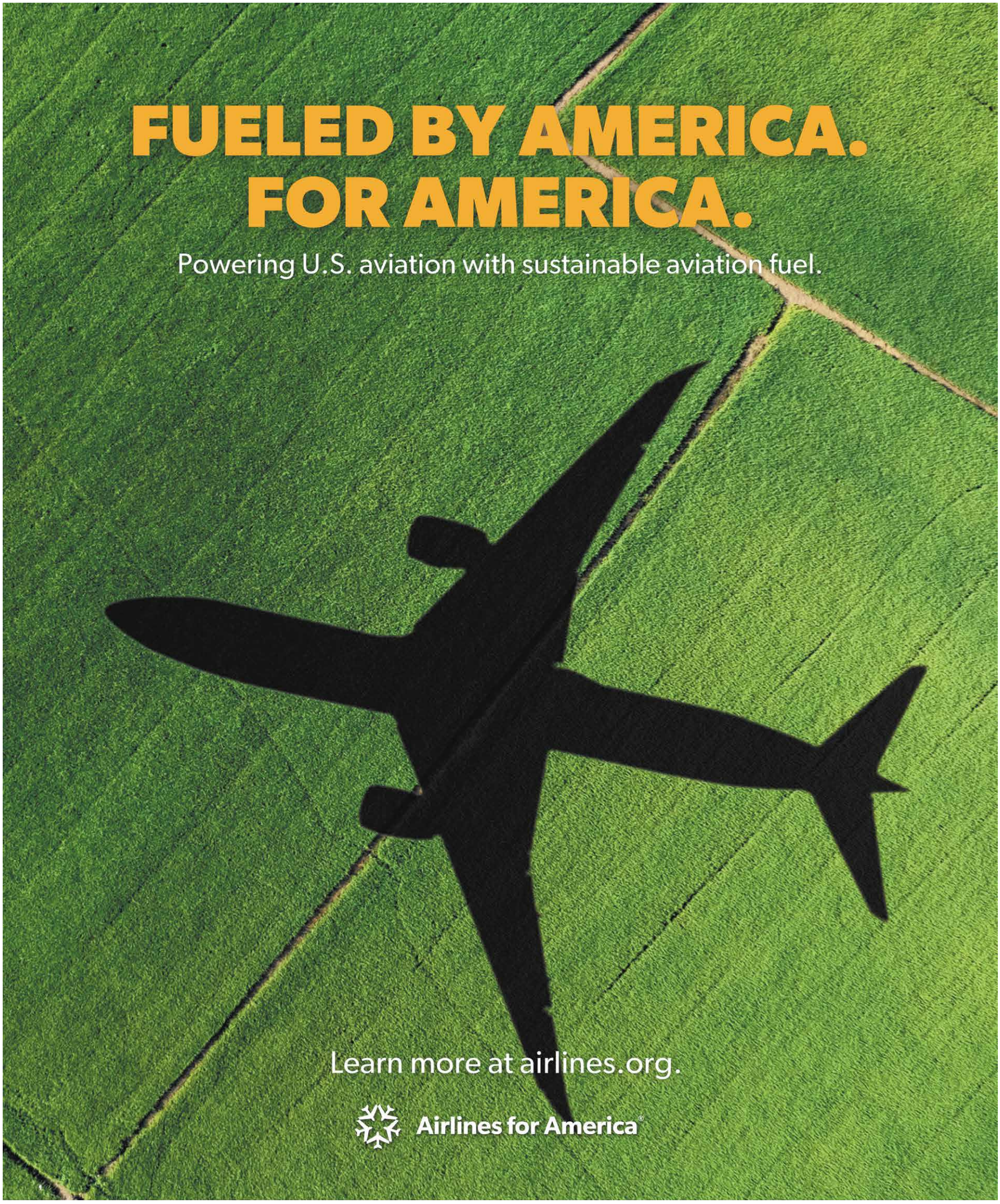
In the near-term, we urge Congress to extend and improve the "45Z" Clean Fuel Production Credit. The three-year duration of the current 45Z credit limits its effectiveness in attracting private sector investment, but with a longer duration and other improvements it could lead to a dramatic increase in U.S. SAF production. Through the reconciliation process, Congress can address this gap and put in place a durable credit that will unlock the potential for SAF grown, produced and consumed in the U.S. – benefiting America's farmers and enabling Americans to fly on aviation fuel produced from America's heartland.

Aside from Capitol Hill, SAF also has historical support from the Department of Defense. The agency maintains that increased and diverse domestic sources of jet fuel are needed for military purposes, resulting in less reliance from foreign suppliers.

As we look to the future, U.S. airlines and the broader U.S. aviation sector will continue to be global leaders in providing safe and reliable air transportation, while also curbing our emissions and environmental impact. We must not cede America's leadership role on SAF, and we have a great opportunity ahead to leverage America's energy resources and technical acumen.

We appreciate the administration's priority on American energy resources and the support and leadership from members of Congress who are championing the opportunity of SAF.

Kevin Welsh is Airlines for America's vice president of environmental affairs and chief sustainability officer.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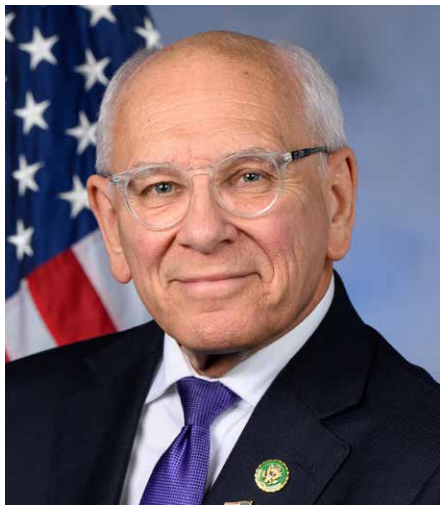
Undoing the Inflation Reduction Act hamstrings our own energy goals



By U.S. Rep. Paul Tonko, D-N.Y.

President Donald Trump and congressional Republicans may not want to admit it, but the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) is foundational to achieving significant parts of their energy agenda.

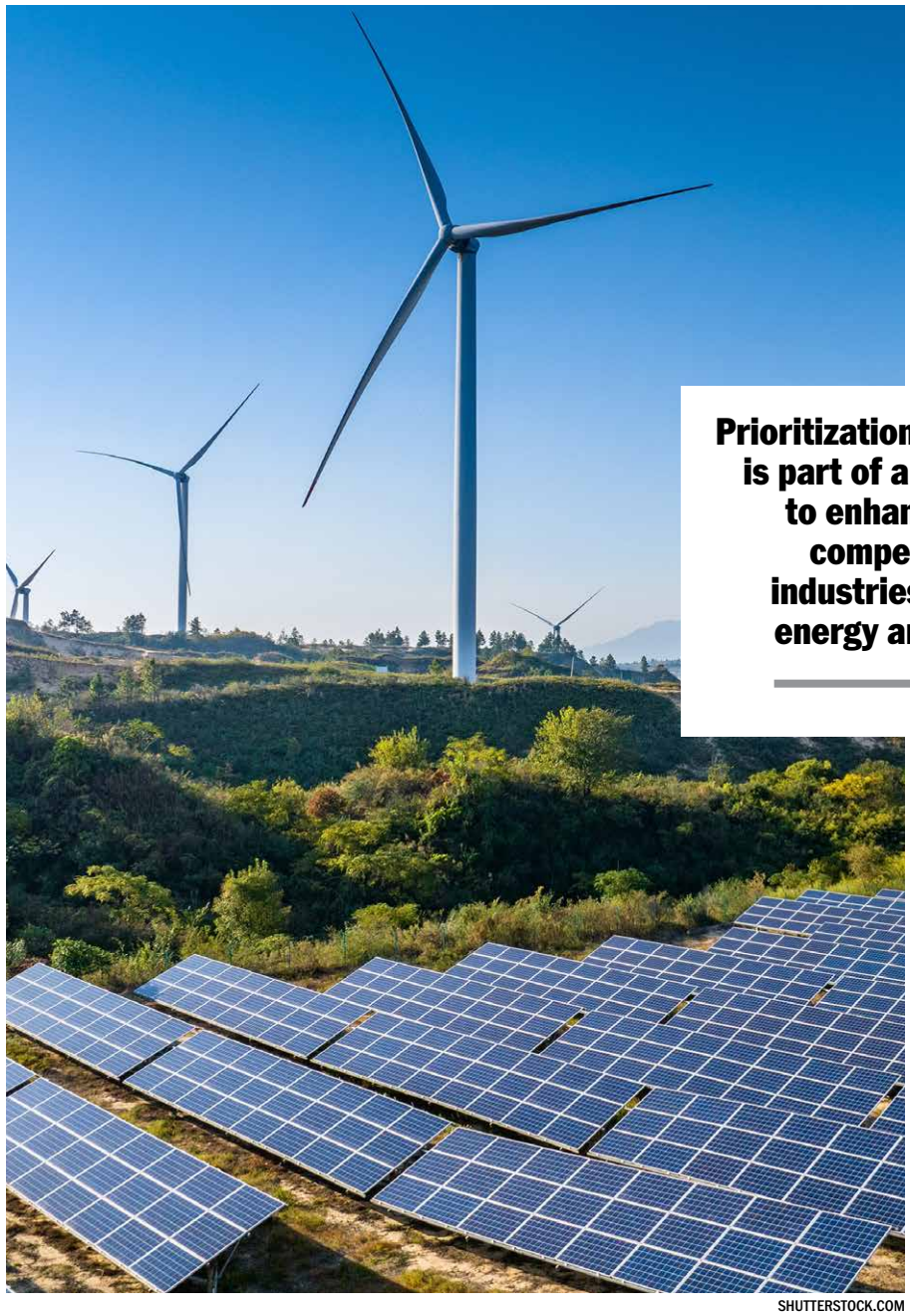
Long before COVID-related cost increases, millions of Americans have struggled with energy affordability. In 2020, during President Trump's first term, the U.S. Energy Information Administration found that more than a quarter of U.S. households reported having difficulty paying their energy bills or keeping their homes at safe temperatures because of energy cost concerns, and millions forgo food and medicine to pay energy bills.

President Trump campaigned on reducing energy costs by half within his first 18 months in office. Notwithstanding a self-inflicted economic catastrophe, this will be yet another broken promise. Initial analysis has found that, since President Trump's re-election, utility rates have begun to increase across the country, and study after study shows that repealing or weakening the IRA's energy tax credits will further raise bills.

These studies recognize that demand for electricity is expected to grow. In the near term, the cheapest, quickest way to meet this demand is by deploying more solar, wind, and storage resources, which can fully take advantage of the IRA's tax incentives.

But the threat of repealing these credits is already having a chilling effect on private sector investment, resulting in the pausing or cancellation of numerous pioneering projects. By one estimate, more than 50,000 American jobs have already been lost or delayed due to this increased uncertainty.

This risk to U.S. jobs should come as no surprise. The IRA has been incredibly effective at job creation, spurring more than 400,000 jobs and over $420 billion in private sector investment since August 2022. Many of these jobs directly support domestic manufacturing of energy technologies. The overwhelming majority of these investments to produce batteries, electric vehicles, solar panels, and other technologies have gone to congressional districts represented by Republicans.



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Republicans may support manufacturers in their districts, but these sites will likely fail without incentives to actually deploy the technologies being produced. The IRA correctly anticipated that a manufacturing renaissance requires support for both making clean energy technologies — through the Advanced Manufacturing Production Credit — and bonuses for domestic content, as well as deploying these products — through the technology-neutral clean electricity tax credits and various consumer-facing credits and rebates.

Prioritization of domestic manufacturing is part of a broader bipartisan desire to enhance America's economic competitiveness in strategic industries of the future, including energy and artificial intelligence. Without a doubt, China is leading the global race to dominate emerging energy industries, having invested $680 billion in clean energy in 2024, about as much as the United States and the European Union combined. Other countries have shown little sign of reducing their demand for clean energy, and China is currently best positioned to fulfill those needs as a technology exporter.

But this race is far from settled.

IRA-inspired investments are already supporting the reshoring of industries that many people had previously written off as lost to overseas competitors. According to the Solar Energy Industries Association, the United States ranked 14th in the world in 2017 for solar panel manufacturing capacity. Today, we rank third, surpassing low-wage countries like Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam. We are now able to produce enough solar panels to meet our domestic needs.

Prioritization of domestic manufacturing is part of a broader bipartisan desire to enhance America's economic competitiveness in strategic industries of the future, including energy and artificial intelligence.

The United States and China are also competing in artificial intelligence, which will require the construction of power-hungry data centers. The IRA's incentives set the economic conditions that will foster private sector investment to expand our electricity system and allow the United States to win this competition.

If we are serious about rapidly expanding our nation's electricity infrastructure as an economic and national security priority to lead the world in AI, it is incomprehensible to consider repealing the incentives that will enable us to meet growing energy demand at the lowest cost possible.

If we agree there is bipartisan support to lower energy costs, boost domestic manufacturing, and ensure U.S. competitiveness in key industries, maintaining the existing suite of energy incentives should be a no-brainer. I hope President Trump and Congressional Republicans set aside their feelings about who signed the IRA into law for long enough to realize that undoing these incentives would seriously jeopardize their own agenda.

Rep. Paul D. Tonko is a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, representing New York's 20th Congressional District in the Capital Region. He is ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Environment. In addition to serving on the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy and Subcommittee on Oversight & Investigations, he co-chairs the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition (SEEC), and the Bicameral Electrification Caucus.

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Paving the way for America's energy comeback

By U.S. Rep. Troy Balderson, R-Ohio

President Donald Trump's return to the White House marked a long-overdue course correction for American energy policy. On the campaign trail and in his inaugural address, he promised to restore common sense to Washington's regulatory agenda and put American energy first — and on Day One, he delivered.

Since taking office, President Trump has signed several executive orders aimed at restoring American energy dominance — unleashing reliable domestic energy, strengthening national security, and lowering costs for consumers.

These orders lifted the devastating freeze on new LNG export projects, ended anti-energy policies across the federal government, and promoted consumer choice by rescinding electric vehicle mandates. Federal agencies have begun to right-size federal rules, including the EPA's recent announcement of a historic deregulation effort to roll back burdensome federal regulations and put an end to the failed Green New Deal initiatives.

After four years of heavy-handed government intervention, costly mandates, and favoritism toward the "green" energy sector, Washington is once again treating our domestic energy resources as the strategic assets they are — not as an enemy to be constrained.

After four years of heavy-handed government intervention, costly mandates, and favoritism toward the "green" energy sector, Washington is once again treating our domestic energy resources as the strategic assets they are — not as an enemy to be constrained.

The previous administration forced Americans to electrify everything, from stoves to vehicles, while the Biden-led EPA worked to shut down our most dependable sources of power. That's not a strategy. It's a recipe for blackouts, higher bills, and economic instability.

This matters everywhere, but especially here in Central Ohio. Along with ushering new critical manufacturing, our region is one of the fastest-growing data center hubs in the country. These facilities are powering the AI revolution, but they can't solely run on weather-dependent power sources and wishful thinking. They need steady, around-the-clock electricity.

In Central Ohio alone, power demand is projected to double from 2018 to 2028. We should be investing in connecting reliable, dispatchable baseload energy to the grid — not trying to take it offline. And while the Biden-led EPA pushed to dismantle our power backbone, I'm working to expand it.

Just a few weeks ago, I reintroduced the GRID Power Act — legislation aimed at cutting through the red tape that's holding back critical power generation projects. Right now, any proposed project seeking to connect to the electric grid must go through a series of impact studies to assess necessary upgrades and costs. But before that process even begins, projects must wait in line in what's called the "interconnection queue."

With the enactment of Democrats' Inflation Reduction Act in 2021, we have seen a surge in renewable energy proposals flooding interconnection queues from companies seeking to take advantage of new taxpayer-funded financial incentives. Wait times in the queue have now ballooned to as much as five years, delaying much-needed baseload power generation projects and putting our grid's reliability at risk.

The GRID Power Act empowers grid operators to work with FERC to fast-track generation projects that provide reliable, dispatchable power, address power shortages caused by retiring resources, and/or support growing power demand. These kinds of projects are exactly what we need to keep the lights on and ensure a reliable electric grid well into the future.

This Congress, I have the honor of serving as chairman of the House Energy Action Team, a coalition of Members of Congress tasked with amplifying House Republicans' America First energy agenda. Our conference believes that our nation is on the brink of a new golden age, one of manufacturing resurgence, job creation, and middle-class prosperity. But without supporting and investing in affordable and abundant American energy, none of it will be possible.

Ohioans — and all Americans — deserve commonsense policies that prioritize energy reliability and long-term security. That's exactly what President Trump and this Congress are committed to delivering.

It's time to stop fighting the future and start powering it.

Rep. Troy Balderson represents Ohio's 12th Congressional District. He serves as Chairman of the House Energy Action Team (HEAT) and is a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee. His district includes parts of the Utica and Marcellus shale formations, key sources of American natural gas.

Energy dominance demands an "all of the above" approach

By Heather Reams

Without a doubt, President Donald Trump is using his second term to ensure American energy dominance is a hallmark of his administration. With his leadership, paired with that of Energy Secretary Chris Wright and Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum, responsible policies can, and should, be enlisted for an energy approach that takes full advantage of all American energy resources and technologies to unleash homegrown energy. In doing so, we can capitalize on opportunities to build a domestic energy supply chain to lower costs for American families and businesses, invigorate state and local economies, and maintain our nation's competitive edge.

Republicans have traditionally championed an "all of the above" approach because it provides states and markets the flexibility needed to take advantage of their own natural resources to meet their specific and unique needs as opposed to mandating or limiting one form of energy over another. And Republicans have long rebuffed the government efforts to pick winners and losers. Letting energy sources blossom and then compete is working.

For instance, Virginia is the beneficiary of numerous innovative energy investments, which have already contributed a whopping $37 billion to the local economy. This is just part of the nearly 300,000 energy jobs across the state, according to recent data. In Utah, the Beehive State is doubling down on all-of-the-above energy, with their clean energy sector employing nearly 50,000 Utahns. Even in diverse geographies, it's clear that states can take advantage of a variety of energy opportunities that can help affordably meet energy needs while also employing thousands of Americans of all stripes and strengthening local economies.

There is also a pressing need to increase affordable and reliable energy. Our nation's electricity demand is rapidly increasing year over year, particularly as the artificial intelligence (AI) market expands. Data centers require an enormous amount of energy, with AI search queries using up to ten times as much energy as a standard search engine, and our existing domestic energy supply can't support this growth without an expansion of its own. We need deployable energy solutions today and for the long term. That's the beauty of "all of the above." Energy produced locally can serve local needs and beyond.

Unleashing new — and relatively untapped — sources like advanced nuclear or geothermal can offset this demand with reliable, homegrown energy and complement existing energy production. The reality is by utilizing these energy sources, we are adding to our domestic energy supply, not *diminishing* it.

Prioritizing all-of-the-above energy production at home can also help to curb our reliance on foreign nations — simultaneously bolstering our national security and ensuring the United States maintains its competitive edge.

Championing "all of the above" energy production is the only way to truly achieve energy dominance. With momentum on our side, now is the time to come together to unleash the full potential of American energy, and the Trump administration is uniquely positioned to do so.

Right now, the United States is ahead of global competitors in the race to develop nuclear, hydrogen, geothermal and other forms of energy, but adversarial nations like China are pouring resources into research and development to outpace us. In order for the United States to keep its competitive edge, we must advance policies to incentivize investment and streamline our regulatory and permitting processes for new energy projects.

Our nation has a proud history of research and innovation, including in advancing energy technologies and resources. However, gathering our technological power didn't happen overnight. America got here through entrepreneurship, innovation, resilience and free market principles, not by the government limiting options and ignoring resources that can make our energy supply more abundant and more reliable.

Championing "all of the above" energy production is the only way to truly achieve energy dominance. With momentum on our side, now is the time to come together to unleash the full potential of American energy, and the Trump administration is uniquely positioned to do so.

Heather Reams is president of Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions (CRES), a 501(c)4 non-profit organization founded in 2013 to engage Republican policymakers and the public about responsible, conservative solutions to address our nation's energy, economic and environmental security while increasing America's competitive edge.

Increasing energy demand requires an all-of-the-above energy approach.

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Shifting gears: It's time to permanently block EV mandates

By U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg, R-Mich.

In March 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized a rule which set aggressive emissions standards for vehicles. The Biden-era EPA projected that an estimated 56% of new vehicles sold between 2030 and 2032 must be electric to comply with these stringent tailpipe emission rules.

There is no denying this reality: the finalized rule was a de facto electric vehicle (EV) mandate that aimed to assist President Joe Biden in reaching his goal of having at least half of all new car sales be electric by 2030.

This electric vehicle mandate not only reflects misguided government overreach; it is also wildly unpopular in Michigan, where we believe in consumer choice and innovation.

For years, I have emphasized that I am not opposed to EVs but rather opposed to *EV mandates*.

EVs may be a great option for some consumers, but currently they are unaffordable and unrealistic options for many Americans.

On average, EVs are around $13,000 more expensive than an internal combustion engine vehicle.

In addition to creating financial challenges for many families, the finalized standards are unattainable. Currently, our electric grid is not equipped to handle the power demands of all these new vehicles, and most areas in the country lack the necessary charging infrastructure to support the goal of having 56% of all new vehicles be electric.

Building these cars will also pose a significant challenge as we lack access to the critical minerals needed to produce them. In fact, a rushed transition to EVs would increase our dependence on China, our foreign adversary, which controls 90% of the EV supply chain in aggregate.

Furthermore, EVs continue to pile up on many dealership lots across the country, as they are not a realistic option for many families. According to Consumer Reports, EVs experience almost 80% more issues and are generally less reliable than vehicles with internal combustion engines. EVs also typically have about half the range of internal combustion engine vehicles, and this range drops to around 40% in colder temperatures. These factors present a challenge for many consumers, including my constituents back home in Michigan.

As a vice chair of the Conservative Climate Caucus, I support realistic options to reduce emissions. However, as a Michigander, I understand how we must allow innovation – and not a blanket mandate – to lead the way to our automotive future. While EVs may play a substantial role in the future of the auto industry, Washington should not discount other technologies like hydrogen, hybrids, and the internal combustion engine.

As a Michigander, I understand how we must allow innovation – and not a blanket mandate – to lead the way to our automotive future.

Fortunately, President Donald Trump has already taken action to eliminate the EV mandate, demonstrating a steadfast commitment to promoting consumer choice and supporting our nation's auto workers. As one of his first acts in office, President Trump issued an executive order to revoke President Biden's 50% EV target. Since then, EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin has announced that the EPA will move to reconsider the Biden administration's vehicle emission standards.

While this comes as welcome news for consumers and auto workers alike, we must ensure that future administrations cannot impose similar mandates that restrict vehicle availability, price American families out of the market, and create favoritism within the auto industry.

For that reason, I have introduced the Choice in Automobile Retail Sales Act, or the CARS Act, with Rep. Russ Fulcher, R-Idaho. This critical legislation would prevent the implementation of regulations that seek to limit consumer choice, allowing consumers instead to choose the vehicle that best meets their needs.

Washington bureaucrats do not know better than engineers back in Michigan. We must pass the CARS Act to ensure that the future of the industry is forged through innovation and not heavy-handed mandates. It's time for us to shift gears.

Rep. Tim Walberg, the Dean of Michigan's Congressional delegation, is serving his ninth term in Congress as the representative of southern Michigan. He chairs the Education and Workforce Committee, is a member of the Natural Resources Committee, and serves as a vice chair of the Conservative Climate Caucus.

Powering the future: Why AI can't succeed without reliable American energy

By U.S. Rep. Julie Fedorchak R-N.D.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming our world. It's revolutionizing industries from healthcare to national security to agriculture, and reshaping how we live, work, and communicate. But all that innovation depends on something far less flashy: electricity. And lots of it.

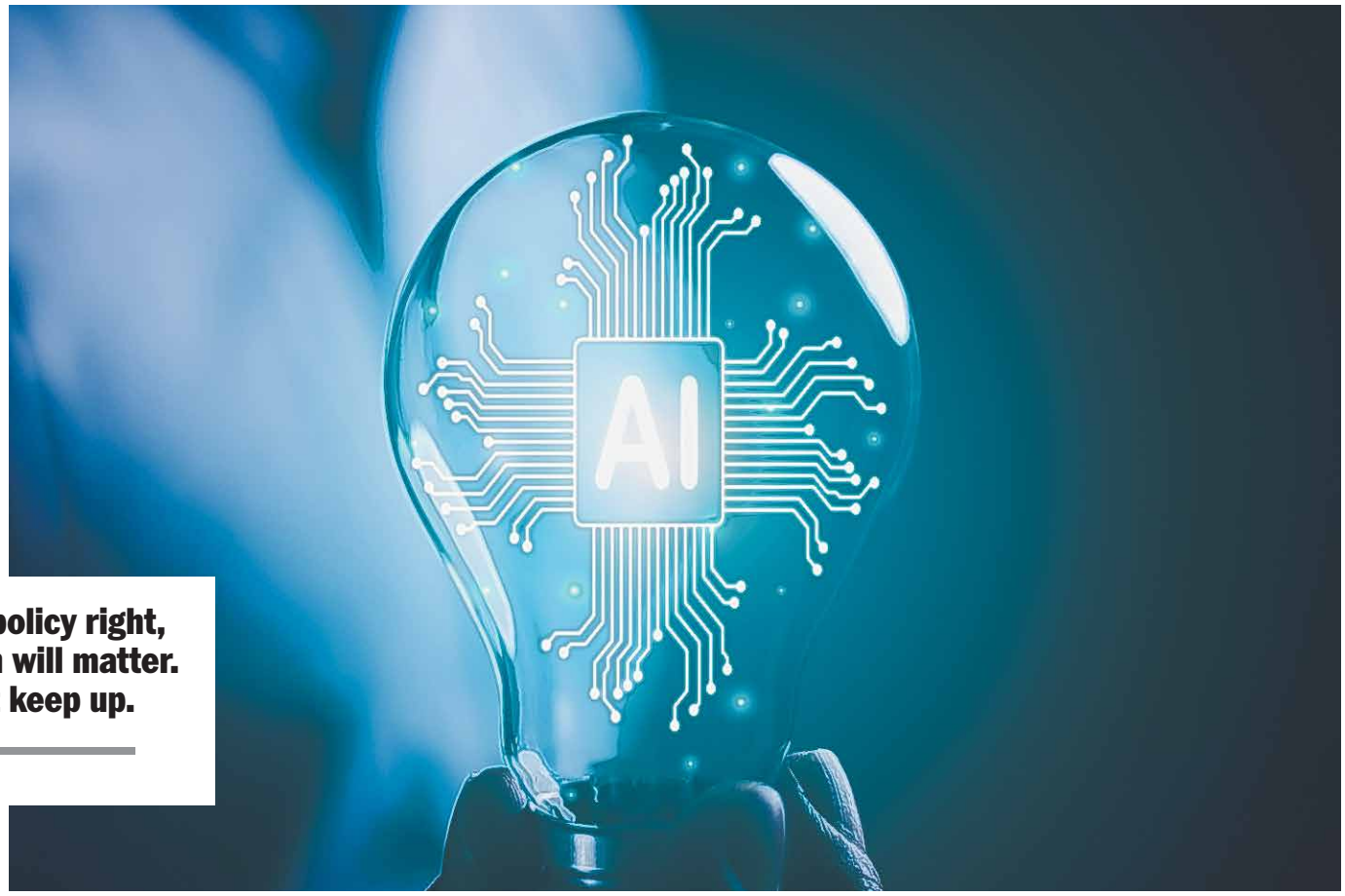
If we don't get energy policy right, no amount of innovation will matter. The grid simply won't keep up.

AI searches use nearly ten times more electricity than standard internet searches. In 2024 alone, data centers accounted for 4.3 percent of total U.S. electricity consumption — a figure projected to triple by 2030. To put that in perspective, that's more electricity than the entire state of Texas uses today.

That's why I recently launched an AI and Energy Working Group to understand and address the energy needs of AI so we can power this technology reliably, affordably, and sustainably. If we don't get energy policy right, no amount of innovation will matter. The grid simply won't keep up.

As a North Dakota Public Service Commissioner, I saw how rapidly the nation's power mix was shifting — and not in ways that supported grid reliability. Generous federal subsidies for wind and solar were flooding the market with intermittent energy while the always-available, dispatchable power we rely on — coal, natural gas, and nuclear — was being pushed out by mounting EPA regulations and rising costs. It left grid operators struggling to balance reliability with fewer tools.

Today, this reliability challenge is being exacerbated by surging energy demand from AI and economic growth. Yet we continue to shut down reliable baseload power at a dangerous pace. Even as grid operators call for more dispatchable power, 95% of the new projects waiting to connect to the grid are wind and solar. Why? Because generous federal tax credits are driving their expansion, regardless of what the grid operators say is needed.



The consequences are real. According to the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), two-thirds of the country now faces a high risk of blackouts — not having enough firm power available to meet demand during all hours and weather conditions.

We need to correct course.

To start, we must align federal and state policy to reflect reality. We need more dispatchable power, and we need it fast. That means streamlining federal permitting to speed up construction of new power generation, electric transmission lines, gas pipelines, and energy storage. Right now, data centers can go live in two years. AI models evolve every six months. But building the infrastructure to power them? That can take ten years. This mismatch is setting us up for a crisis — and holding back American innovation.

We also can't afford to prematurely retire reliable resources that are already connected to the grid. We should be using every tool available, including grid-enhancing technologies like dynamic line ratings that help squeeze every megawatt out of existing resources. Even AI can help, as PJM's new pilot project is exploring, by speeding up how quickly new generation gets connected to the grid.

Lastly, to restore market signals and prioritize grid security, federal incentives must be realigned with the technologies we urgently need, including U.S.-based manufacturing for transformers and gas turbines, as well as emerging solutions like battery storage and small modular reactors. We should phase out subsidies for commercially competitive intermittent resources that distort energy markets and prevent critical, dispatchable resources from competing on a level playing field.

This isn't just about powering data centers. It's about protecting our national security, safeguarding our economy, and ensuring America — not China — leads the world in AI. While China encourages Western nations to accede to self-defeating climate agreements, it's building dozens of new coal-fired power plants to fuel its AI revolution. China isn't just catching up; it's on the brink of overtaking us.

The stakes of this race could not be higher. While America uses technology to invent and innovate, China weaponizes it. AI will give China the most powerful tool we've ever seen to censor and oppress at home and abroad more efficiently, and with less restraint.

Congress must act now with a national strategy that connects energy policy to the digital economy. Because without energy security, we can't lead in AI, or anything else. Let's power the future — not just of technology, but of American prosperity and security.

Rep. Julie Fedorchak, a fourth-generation North Dakotan, proudly represents her entire state in Washington, D.C. and serves on the Committee on Energy and Commerce. She served as president of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) in 2024, advocating for responsible energy development essential to economic growth and national security. Julie and her husband Mike, a Navy veteran, have been married for 25 years and have three adult children.

Energy incentives will unlock energy dominance

By Jeremy Harrell

The first 100 days of the new Trump administration have reshaped the energy landscape. Reliable, affordable energy is a top priority as the president seeks to unleash a new era of American energy dominance. Lower energy prices can usher in a true golden age for U.S. consumers. Done well, this agenda can also reduce global carbon dioxide emissions.

This dynamic is underscored by the president's work to recruit new artificial intelligence and data center investments to the U.S. These investments can lead to economic development and will require rapid energy demand growth when paired with an American manufacturing resurgence, increasing U.S. energy demand by as much as 18% over the next decade, according to data from the North American Electric Reliability Council. Energy prices are one of the most important cost drivers in these energy-intensive industries.

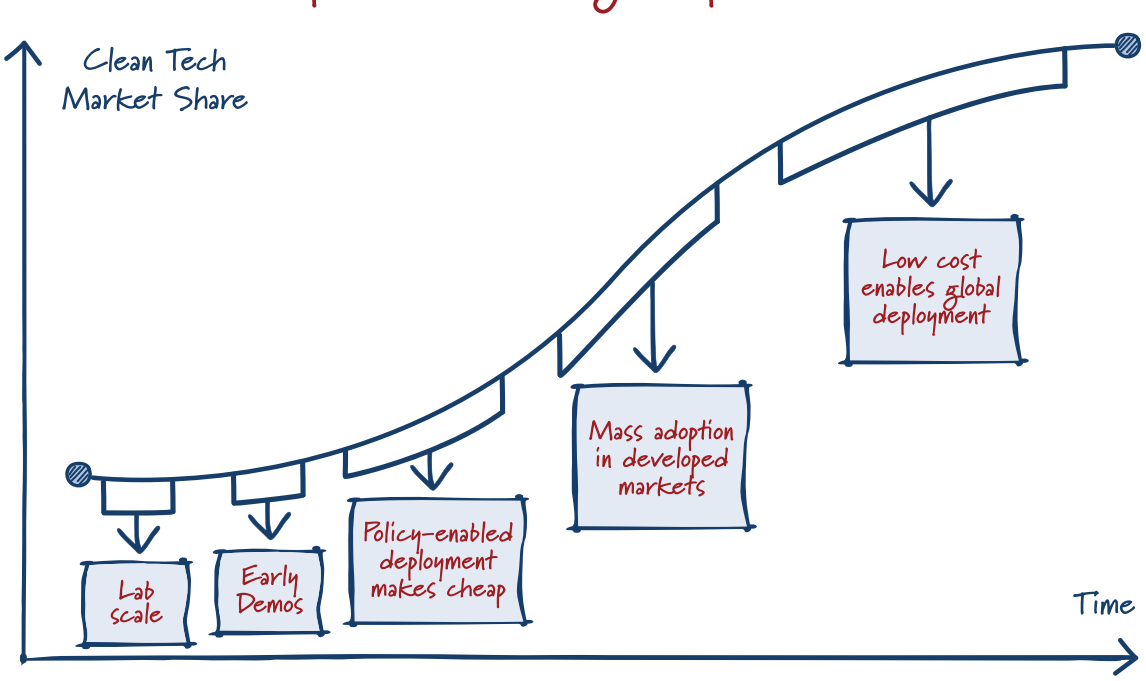
A rapid increase in supply is required to maintain affordable costs for all American consumers. The U.S. must rapidly deploy all types of new American power. To effectively deploy these new technologies at speed, the administration will need to break down permitting barriers to accelerate the buildout of new energy infrastructure like pipelines, transmission, and other grid-enhancing technologies.

In addition to streamlining the permitting process to increase and maximize new investments, minimizing the tax burden on developers is another essential part of this equation. Maintaining low corporate rates is certainly going to help, but tax incentives also play an enormous role in minimizing investment risk and keeping prices low. Fortunately, some key incentives will not require drastic policy changes like the green new deal or a heavy-handed government regulation.

Existing incentives — authored or supported by Republicans in Congress under current law — are critical for American leadership in new, affordable, 24/7 American power. These forms of power include advanced nuclear, geothermal, hydropower, natural gas with carbon capture, and even new breakthroughs in fusion technology. Key incentives, like 48E/45Y technology-neutral electricity credit; the 45X advanced manufacturing credit; the 45Q carbon capture, utilization, and storage credit; and the 45V hydrogen credit, can reduce the costs for American producers and support the manufacturers and the mineral supply chain across the economy. Simply put, consumer prices go up if the U.S. doesn't lower the tax and energy cost burden for American producers and manufacturers.

Conservatives have long championed innovation and targeted incentives, rather than mandates, to unlock new forms of American energy production. Public-private partnerships are a powerful tool for research and development and have catalyzed many world-changing American innovations. The U.S. shale boom is a prime example. The private sector led the charge to develop new drilling technology in partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy when the U.S. was struggling to compete with foreign adversaries in the 1980s. Congress then enacted a new production tax credit to rapidly scale up adoption.

Once the technology matured, the tax credit reasonably expired. As a result, U.S. consumers now have abundant, affordable, reliable, lower emissions natural gas. This private-public partnership has delivered a 10-fold return on investment of taxpayer resources. This is just one example of how American innovation not only increases reliability and affordability for U.S. consumers but gives the U.S. a competitive edge in the global market for energy exports.



With proper incentives in place for innovative emerging energy and manufacturing technologies, America's private sector will continue to deliver affordable energy to power the U.S. economy.

Today, there is a similar energy scarcity dynamic developing as the U.S. experiences unprecedented energy demand growth. Tax credits can help new technologies overcome initial hurdles and rapidly reduce the cost of deployment. Early support for new technologies can be part of a comprehensive strategy to unlock domestic energy resources and make American manufacturing more competitive globally. Once technologies are proven domestically, they can rapidly reshape the global energy market, just as U.S. LNG exports have. Above all, tax credits should promote the uptake of new technologies as they become cost-competitive and not relied on as a permanent subsidy for uneconomic resources.

With proper incentives in place for innovative emerging energy and manufacturing technologies, America's private sector will continue to deliver affordable energy to power the U.S. economy. Congress should seek to leverage these past successes to support the technology this moment requires. When paired with robust domestic manufacturing incentives, like those in the advanced manufacturing credit, U.S. producers all along the supply chain can benefit. Similarly, Congress should broaden the advanced manufacturing credit to support component manufacturing for new forms of energy production.

As part of a tax policy deal this year, Congress can use targeted policies to best position the U.S. to lead the world in energy production and prevail against China. To build on President Donald Trump's goal to make American energy dominant, the private sector needs all tools available, including low-cost financing, tax incentives and faster permitting, to increase power production and lower consumer costs.

Jeremy Harrell is the CEO of ClearPath, a conservative energy organization whose mission is to accelerate American innovation to reduce global energy emissions.

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Craig Station, a three-unit coal-fired power plant, is located in Moffat County, Colorado.

We can't afford the high cost of energy instability

By U.S. Rep. Jeff Hurd, R-Colo.

Energy isn't just a policy issue — it's personal. I decided to run for Congress after visiting miners and power plant operators at the Craig Station coal power plant in northwest Colorado. That power plant — long a source of affordable, reliable power for our state — is set to close by 2028. It's not closing because it no longer works. The plant is closing because of misguided environmental policies that ignore the real-world impacts on working families and grid stability. My constituents in this part of Colorado are most worried about losing their jobs and the economic fallout to their communities. But all of us should be worried about Colorado's energy future: Without a serious replacement, Coloradans can expect higher bills, less reliability, and a more fragile grid.

We're seeing the same story unfold across Colorado. In Pueblo, the Comanche 3 power plant is now set to shut down by 2031 — decades before the end of its useful life. That facility supports more than 150 jobs and powers nearly 65,000 households. Its premature closure doesn't just threaten the local economy. It undermines regional energy reliability and pushes hidden costs onto everyone else.

In a world of growing uncertainty, American energy should be a stabilizing force. It can lower costs, lift families out of poverty, and give our allies the security they need to stand with us.

When we lose reliable and environmentally responsible baseload power like this, those costs don't disappear — they are passed along to families who pay higher utility bills, to small businesses trying to keep the lights on, and to rural communities at the end of the electric line. This is the hidden tax of bad energy policy: When energy costs rise, the price of everything else — housing, food, transportation — goes up too. That burden hits working families, rural communities, and small businesses hardest.

But here's the good news: Colorado's 3rd District has the resources to lead. Oil. Gas. Uranium. Geothermal. High-quality coal. Rare earths and minerals essential for renewables. We sit atop the ingredients for a resilient, diverse energy future — one that powers our homes, supports good-paying jobs, and strengthens America's position in the world.

Right now, that future is under threat from short-sighted policies, regulatory red tape, and infrastructure bottlenecks. But it doesn't have to be. We have a chance — right now — to pursue an energy agenda that strengthens our economy at home and projects stability abroad.

Recently I had a friend ask what it means to support American "energy dominance." The United States currently leads the world in oil production, he pointed out, so aren't we already energy dominant? I responded by saying that producing more than others isn't the same as true energy dominance. The real measure isn't just what we produce — it's how we use it, export it, and leverage it to strengthen our economy, our national security, and allies abroad. It starts by removing the roadblocks to responsible development. It means minimizing the hidden energy tax that families feel every time they fuel up or turn on the heat. And it means exporting our resources, our know-how, and our leadership to allies around the world who would rather depend on us than on hostile regimes.

In a world of growing uncertainty, American energy should be a stabilizing force. It can lower costs, lift families out of poverty, and give our allies the security they need to stand with us. That's not a political talking point — it's a strategy for prosperity, strength, and peace.

We have the resources. We have the workers. We just need the political will.

Let's get to work.

Rep. Jeff Hurd represents Colorado's 3rd district, one of the most stunning and diverse regions in the country. He serves on three key House committees: Natural Resources, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science, Space & Technology.

Nuclear will help the United States reclaim energy dominance

By U.S. Rep. Rick Allen, R-Ga.

Over the last four years, while the previous administration pursued a war on domestic energy production, House Republicans consistently made the case for unleashing America's abundant energy capabilities, as we did during the first Trump administration. We've now seen the outcomes from these vastly differing approaches. Under President Joe Biden's anti-energy policies, Americans saw record high gas prices, inflation over 20%, unaffordable utility bills, and the start of a brutal, energy-related conflict between Ukraine and Russia which has resulted in needless bloodshed. By contrast, during President Donald Trump's first term we unleashed the power of American energy, and the United States didn't just become energy independent – we became energy dominant. Gas prices were low, inflation was less than 2%, the U.S. economy was booming, and America was respected on the world stage.

With President Trump back in the White House, we now have the opportunity and appropriate leadership in place to reclaim American energy dominance, and in turn, to strengthen our national security. This administration has already taken important steps to do so through executive action. Since his inauguration, President Trump has declared a National Energy Emergency to unlock America's full energy potential and bring down costs for American families. He's established the National Energy Dominance Council to maximize use of America's abundant energy resources. He's rescinded every one of the Biden Administration's anti-American energy regulations. He's ended the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) pause, approved the first LNG project since the ban took effect, and much more.

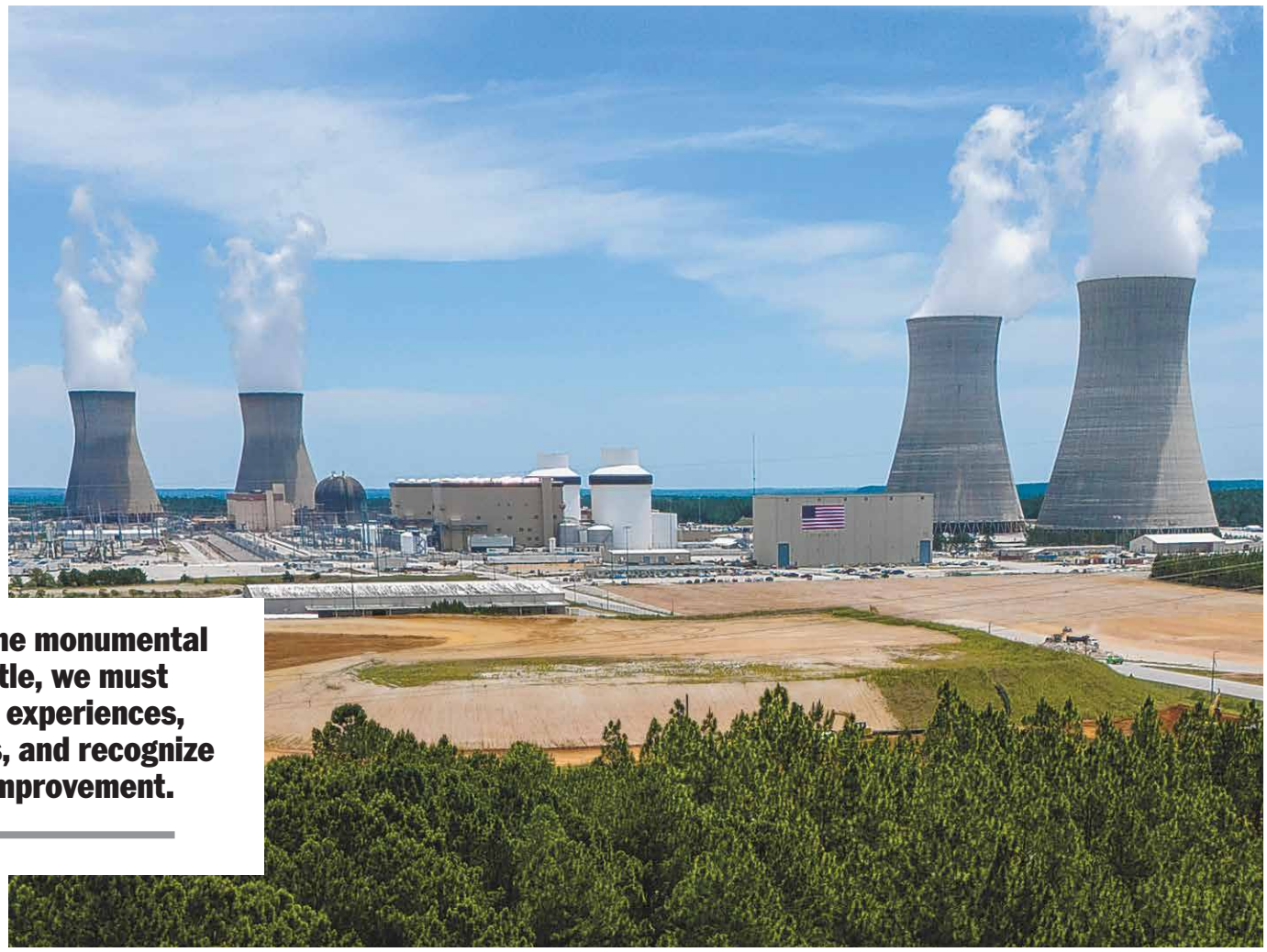
Now, House and Senate Republicans must band together to ensure these energy policies are codified, making our pro-domestic energy agenda the law of the land. As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I look forward to carefully crafting energy policy this Congress that benefits hardworking families, puts America first, and secures U.S. leadership.

We know that an all-of-the-above strategy is the only way to achieve these goals, and expanding our nuclear footprint, the nation's largest source of clean energy, will be instrumental. In Georgia's 12th district, we are paving the way with the first two new nuclear reactors built in the United States in three decades at Plant Vogtle. Plant Vogtle is the only four-unit nuclear facility in the United States, and with Nuclear Units 3 and 4 now fully operational, this facility is providing a stable, baseload supply of electricity to millions of Georgia homes and businesses. The reliability that nuclear offers is crucial for maintaining grid stability and ensuring an uninterrupted power supply, but we cannot stop here.

Last Congress, I introduced the *Nuclear Licensing Efficiency Act*, which will help improve the licensing review process for future nuclear projects by streamlining procedures and timelines for reviewing nuclear licensing applications. If we hope to build upon the monumental successes at Plant Vogtle, we must also learn from our past experiences, incorporate best practices, and recognize that there is room for improvement. This is where the *Nuclear Licensing Efficiency Act* will pay dividends – helping ensure future projects, large and small, are completed in a timely manner and as efficiently as possible. I am proud that this legislation was included in the bipartisan *Atomic Energy Advancement Act*, which was signed into law on July 9, 2024.

President Trump has made his vision clear: unleash American energy. Gone are the days of outsourcing our energy needs. We must seize the opportunity ahead of us to codify energy policy that incorporates the full breadth of our productive capacity. We cannot do so without embracing the reliability of nuclear energy.

Rep. Rick W. Allen serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee and represents Georgia's 12th congressional district — home to Plant Vogtle, the largest nuclear power station in the United States.



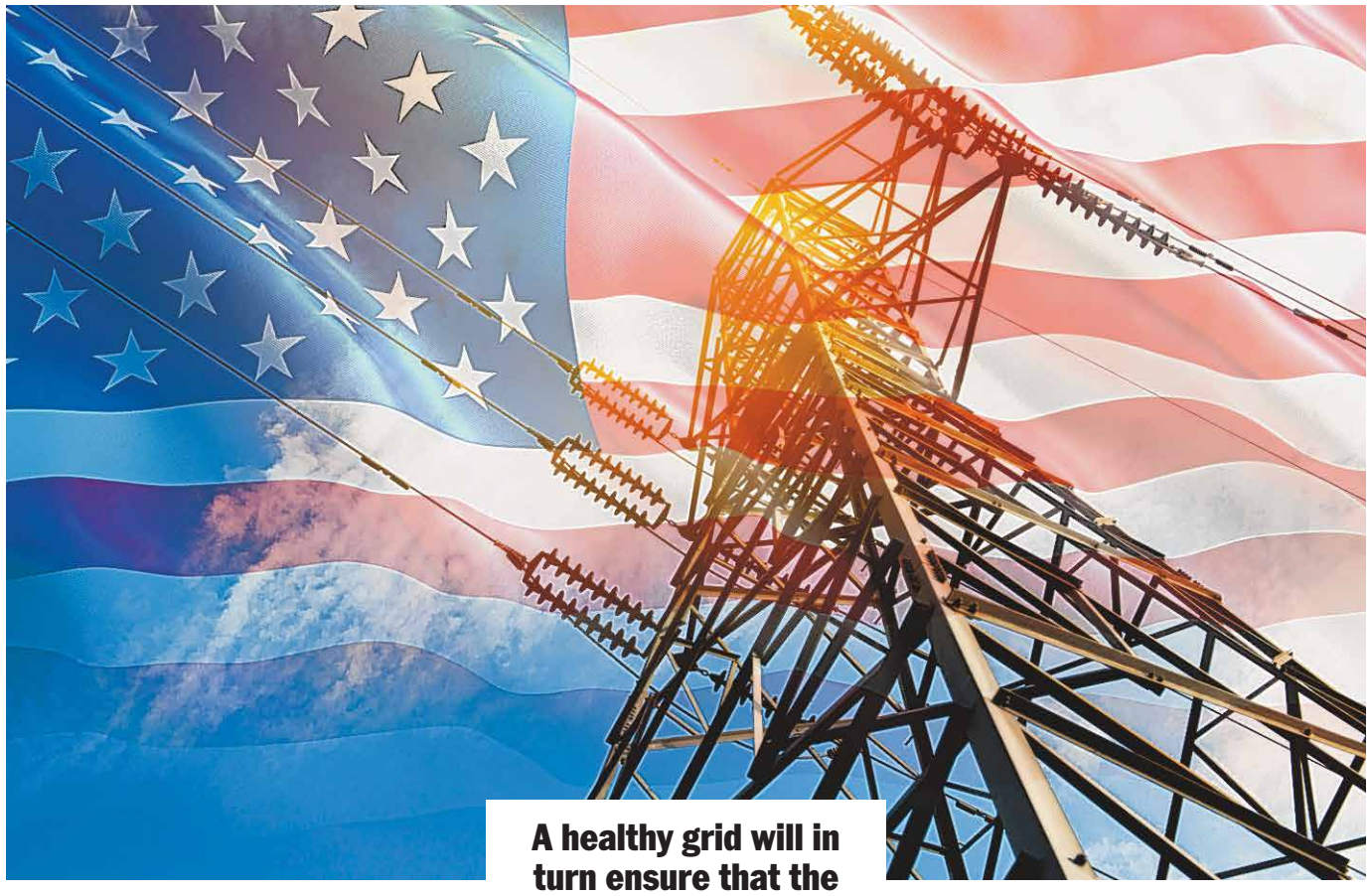
AP PHOTO/MIKE STEWART

The four nuclear reactors and cooling towers are seen at the Alvin W. Vogtle Electric Generating Plant in Waynesboro, Ga.

If we hope to build upon the monumental successes at Plant Vogtle, we must also learn from our past experiences, incorporate best practices, and recognize that there is room for improvement.

A strong nation requires reliable electricity

By Michelle Bloodworth



A strong economy rests on its ability to meet consumer demands. Similarly, the measure of a strong power grid is its ability to reliably meet the demand for electricity. America is now seeing unprecedented growth in electricity demand, and our economic and national security interests depend on our ability to meet this demand.

Over the past three decades, our economic progress has had a lot to do with our ability to harness the power and potential of the internet. In the decades to come, it will be artificial intelligence (AI) and advanced manufacturing. These technologies will drive innovation and growth in fields like health care, information technology, defense, and infrastructure, but they require a reliable supply of electricity.

Data centers currently account for 3% of America's electricity demand, but that is expected to increase to 8% by 2030 due to AI. These relatively small percentages are misleading because by 2035, the electricity required for American data centers will be the equivalent of adding another California to the nation's electricity supply.

Despite this demand growth, past administrations have promoted policies that have made our grid less reliable and our electricity less affordable. They have attempted to eliminate badly needed energy options like coal, one of our nation's most abundant and reliable sources of electricity, and curtail others like natural gas. These policies have caused electricity officials to issue warnings about possible electricity shortages.

Last winter's polar vortex pushed U.S. electricity demand to an historic level. On the peak day of the storm when electricity demand peaked, coal and natural gas provided more than 80% of the additional electricity that kept homes and businesses warm and safe. These are the same fuels the previous administration did not like. On the other hand, the preferred electricity sources of the previous administration – wind and solar – provided slightly more than 3% of the additional electricity. During this period, the use of coal also helped save consumers in 13 states and the District of Columbia $500 million to $1.4 billion.

Even though more electricity is needed, 117 coal plants are set to close over the next five years. These retiring plants could power 1,000 or more hyperscale data centers. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) issued a report last December warning that more than half of the United States is at risk of electricity shortages. Recognizing this growing threat to our electricity supply, President Donald Trump declared a national energy emergency on his first day in office. The declaration underscored the essential role that reliable and affordable energy plays in our national economy and national security. It also opened the door to a number of other important actions that the administration is now undertaking.

In February, the president established the National Energy Dominance Council, an interagency panel that is focused on improving the permitting, distribution, and regulation of all forms of American energy including coal. The United States has the largest coal reserves in the world, even more than China, so it makes sense that we should take advantage of this resource, not abandon it.

The Trump administration is also taking other steps to undo the damage to the American energy sector under the Biden administration. Last month, the EPA announced it is reconsidering a number of EPA rules including President Biden's Clean Power Plan 2.0. The Biden Clean Power Plan was designed to force the closure of coal-fired power plants, despite objections from electricity officials that the rule would make our electricity grid less reliable.

A healthy grid will in turn ensure that the American economy can grow, and the United States can improve its competitive position in global markets.

Earlier this month, the president announced a number of executive actions to help ensure that coal can play a role in addressing our national energy emergency and strengthen the reliability of the electricity grid. As part of these actions, federal agencies have been ordered to rescind policies that transition the country away from coal production or otherwise discriminate against the use of coal-powered electricity. The secretary of energy has also been directed to expedite the use of orders that will ensure needed generating capacity is available during emergencies.

The cumulative impact of these steps will be a healthy electricity grid capable of delivering reliable and affordable electricity to American homes and businesses. A healthy grid will in turn ensure that the American economy can grow, and the United States can improve its competitive position in global markets.

With more AI breakthroughs on the horizon and the increased electrification of everything from vehicles to household appliances, it will be more important than ever that the U.S. have a growing energy sector. This will require a true 'all of the above' strategy that acknowledges the strengths and limitations of a variety of electricity sources including renewables and fossil fuels like coal.

While Biden administration policymakers rejected coal, our geopolitical rivals continue to embrace it. Today, China's fleet of coal-fired power plants is more than six times larger than the U.S. fleet, and China is increasing the size of its fleet because it sees coal as critical to achieving economic success.

America has ample natural resources to compete and win. The question until now has been are we going to leverage these resources? Under President Trump, it is clear that we will. And Americans can look forward to an energy-secure America as a result.

Michelle Bloodworth is president and CEO for America's Power, *a national trade organization whose sole mission is to advocate at the federal and state levels on behalf of the U.S. coal fleet and its supply chain.*

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The U.S. Needs Coal Power Plants

The demand for electricity is growing rapidly because of data centers, artificial intelligence, and other advancements that are good for our nation. These technologies will improve our lives by driving innovation and growth in fields like health care, information technology, defense, and infrastructure, but they will require a lot more electricity.

Yet, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation is warning that more than half the country faces the risk of electricity shortages, and the chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has even called this a "crisis." That's why President Trump is taking bold steps to solve this problem before it gets any worse.

One of these steps is to strengthen our nation's fleet of coal power plants that provide electricity to homes and businesses in 40 states. Coal power plants –

- Are more dependable than almost any other source of electricity and are several times more dependable than wind or solar power
- Produce affordable electricity because the price of coal is lower now than it was in 2008
- Provide energy security because the typical coal power plant maintains a two-month stockpile of coal at the plant
- Are resilient during extreme weather, such as polar vortexes, when coal power plants have been able to increase their output and other power sources have not
- Provide other valuable attributes that enable the electricity grid to operate reliably

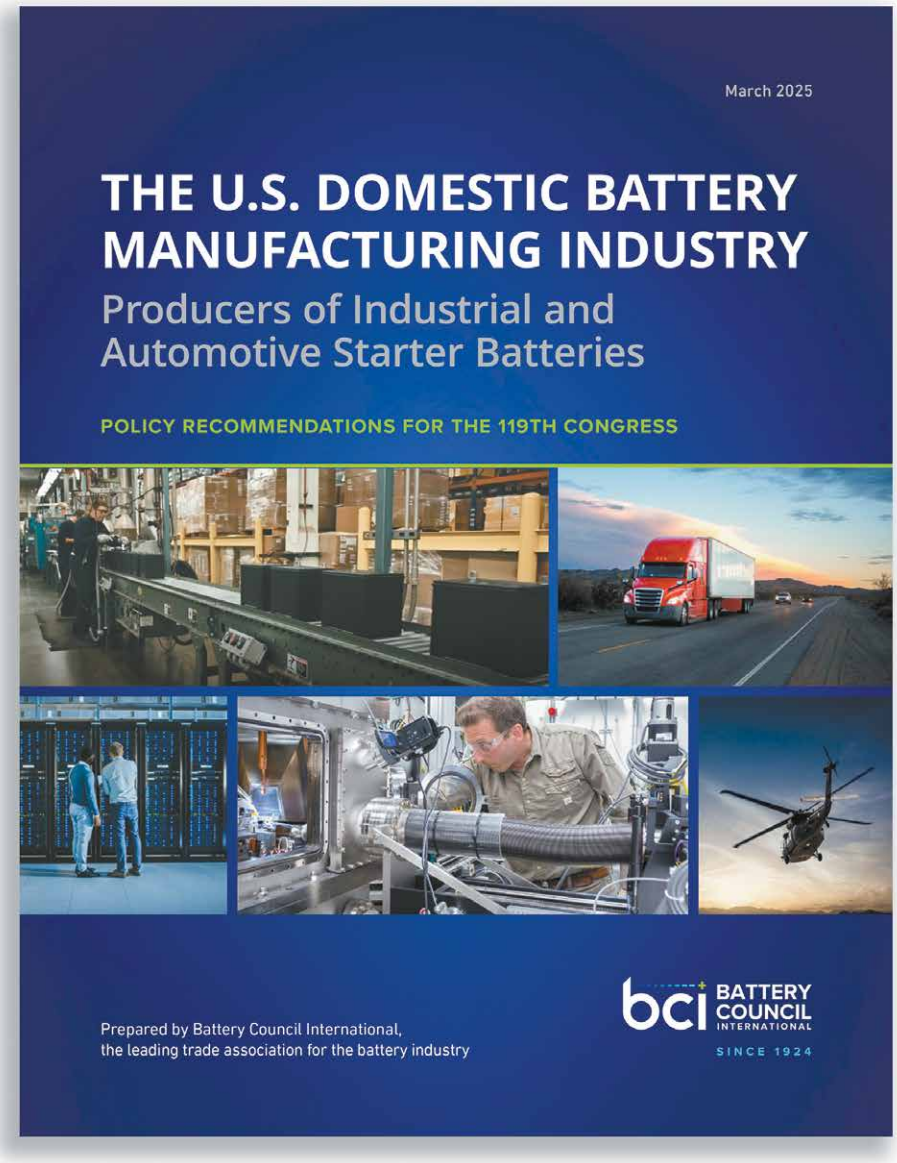
Moreover, the typical large coal power plant has invested as much as $1 billion or more for environmental controls.

Coal is needed to power the technologies of the future and to help maintain our leadership in a highly competitive global market.

For more information about the nation's fleet of coal power plants, please visit ***www.AmericasPower.org***

America's battery industry: Building our energy future on proven domestic expertise

By Roger Miksad



For more information on BCI and to read our policy positions, visit BatteryCouncil.org

When Americans think about batteries, their minds often jump to mobile phones, electric vehicles, and foreign manufacturing giants. But the true cornerstone of America's energy storage dominance is the lead-based battery made in manufacturing towns across the country that has been quietly humming along under the hood of our cars for over a century. Smart investments in energy storage must build on that existing strength.

The domestic lead battery industry — powering everything from the car in your driveway to the backup systems protecting our nation's critical infrastructure — represents not just America's energy legacy but the foundation of our energy future. As President Donald Trump focuses on rebuilding American manufacturing strength, no industry offers a better template for success than our homegrown battery sector: already employing tens of thousands of Americans and producing most of the lead batteries sold here each year with unparalleled supply chain security and generating billions in economic activity while supporting energy independence.

Rather than gambling exclusively on newcomers, policymakers should recognize and support our established battery infrastructure as the bedrock upon which to build America's energy storage future. And here's how:

Maintain Section 45X Advanced Manufacturing Provision – Ensure the existing Section 45 provision remains in place as a tool for domestic battery manufacturers to protect and grow their operations.

Remove Tax Penalties for Domestic Battery Production – Eliminate punitive excise taxes on strategic battery raw materials to support domestic battery manufacturing by passing the USA Batteries Act (H.R. 1264, Meuser).

As global competition for resources intensifies, we must strengthen our domestic battery manufacturing and recycling capabilities through expanded capacity ... Reinforcing our domestic battery industry will further protect America from supply disruptions, price manipulation, and the geopolitical schemes of adversary nations.

Support Public-Private Research Partnerships – Programs between BCI members and our National Laboratories help spur innovation and growth in domestic battery technologies, including research and development.

America's incumbent battery manufacturers are innovation powerhouses with deep manufacturing expertise, cutting-edge research capabilities, and unmatched supply chain knowledge. These companies have driven battery excellence for more than a century.

This established battery ecosystem isn't a historical anecdote; it's America's competitive advantage in the global race for energy storage dominance.

Hard economic data confirms that batteries are the backbone of American economic resilience. According to a 2025 study, our industry generated a staggering $35 billion in economic output in 2023 alone. But the direct economic impact is only the tip of the iceberg: nearly one-fifth of the entire U.S. economy — approximately $8.1 trillion in economic output — depends on batteries to deliver reliable power every day because batteries serve a core role in starting engines, powering forklifts, running datacenters, and other uses.

This isn't just about producing batteries, it's about energizing communities across America through quality jobs and regional economic stability.

The battery workforce represents American manufacturing at its finest: 28,300 Americans are directly employed in manufacturing, recycling, mining, transportation, distribution, and service roles. These are more than jobs — they're careers with family-sustaining wages that outpace national averages.

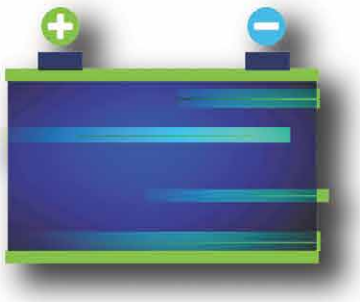
The battery industry's success story demonstrates what's possible when private enterprise, technological innovation, and resource efficiency work in harmony. As we confront growing global supply chain challenges and aggressive competition from China, America's battery manufacturers and recyclers stand ready to power our nation forward, just as we have for the past 125 years.

As global competition for resources intensifies, we must strengthen our domestic battery manufacturing and recycling capabilities through expanded capacity. President Trump's industrial policies recognize this fundamental reality. Reinforcing our domestic battery industry will further protect America from supply disruptions, price manipulation, and the geopolitical schemes of adversary nations.

Congress and the administration should recognize the strategic advantage of building upon our existing battery manufacturing base as they chart America's energy and transportation future, rather than attempting to create an entirely new industry from scratch. The expertise, infrastructure, and workforce already exist within America's established battery companies.

With appropriate support from Congress, these same companies that have successfully powered America for over a century can and will lead the next generation of energy storage innovation.

Roger Miksad is president and executive director of Battery Council International.



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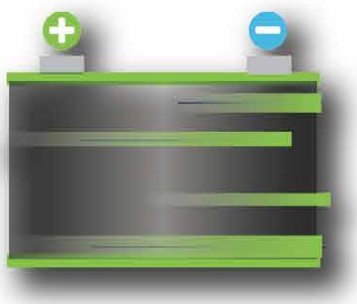
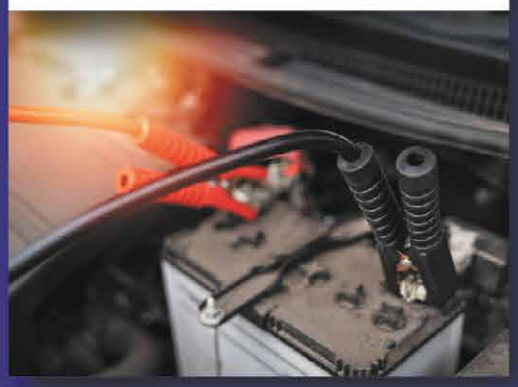


THE BUSINESS OF BATTERIES

Meet Battery Council International (BCI)

SAFETY

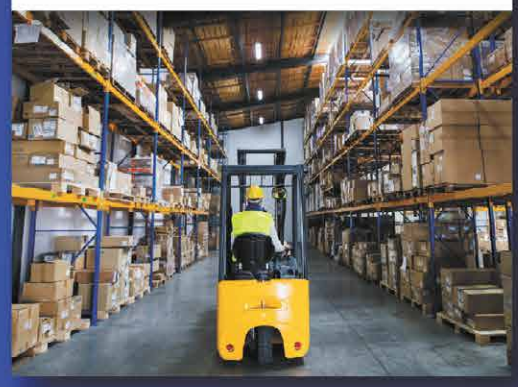


BCI helped develop the industry's first blood lead test, and continues to drive industry-led standards where its members hit internal targets 2X stricter than OSHA requirements.

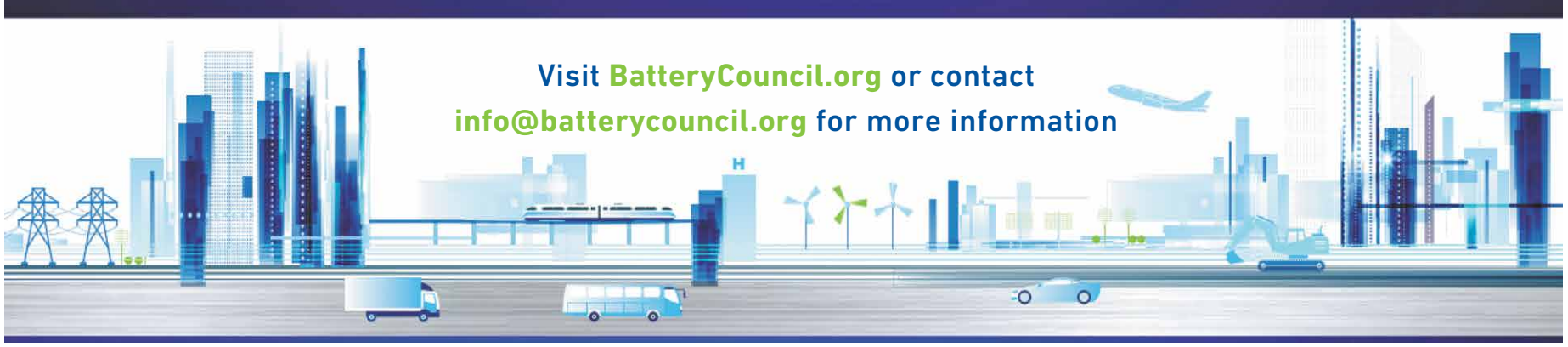
INNOVATION

Working with U.S. National Labs, BCI has pioneered public-private partnerships that drive innovation and fuel real-world commercial improvements.

GROWTH



U.S. lead battery manufacturing contributes 106,050 jobs, and the big picture is even greater — with +$10 trillion in battery-related output from the domestic battery industry.



Visit BatteryCouncil.org or contact info@batterycouncil.org for more information

Meeting the demands of today and tomorrow requires clean and efficient energy

By U.S. Rep. Jennifer McClellan, D-Va.

Do you use ChatGPT? How many times a day?

Publicly launched in November 2022, ChatGPT reached 100 million monthly active users in its first two months to become the fastest-growing application in history at that time. By February 2025, it had 400 million weekly active users.

How much energy do you think ChatGPT uses? Currently, about 39.98 million kWh per day — enough to charge 8 million phones each year. That's more electricity than at least 117 countries consume in a year!

Artificial intelligence (AI) is already increasing energy demand as it rapidly transforms our lives and can revolutionize health care, manufacturing, energy systems, emergency response, national defense, and more.

AI uses data to work. So do the devices you use daily to map your route to work or vacation, check the weather, take your telehealth appointment, program your thermostat, alarm system or refrigerator, or watch that show or sports event everyone's talking about that you then must text or post about on social media.

That data is processed in data centers the size of sports arenas that warehouse thousands of computer servers, which handle internet transactions and algorithms worldwide. Data centers need energy to power the computers and equipment to do that 24/7 and to cool it all down.

Lots of it.

In 2023, data centers used 4.4% of total U.S. electricity. By 2028, they are expected to use as much as 12%. To put that in perspective, a recent study of the impact of Virginia's emergence as a global data center hub, the Joint Legislative Review Commission, noted that one data center campus can use more power than is generated by a large nuclear reactor at Dominion's existing North Anna Power Station. And one Microsoft data center can use as much power as the city of Seattle. This proliferation of AI coincides with dramatic growth of the internet-of-things, advanced manufacturing, electrification of transportation and buildings, the rise of telehealth and more.

AP PHOTO/TED SHAFFREY

Data centers located in Ashburn in Loudon County, Virginia. The centers house the computer servers and hardware required to support modern internet use, including artificial intelligence.

Simply put, our current energy infrastructure, much of it designed and built in the 20th century, cannot meet the staggering demands of the 21st century. Our energy policy must evolve to reflect this reality while minimizing the devastating impact energy production can have on vulnerable communities and our fragile planet and keeping electricity affordable and reliable for American families. Clean energy and energy efficiency are two necessary components of any 21st-century energy policy sufficient to meet the needs of today and tomorrow.

As a policymaker for nearly two decades, I have witnessed and tried to get ahead of these trends. My efforts as a state legislator culminated in the passage of the Virginia Clean Economy Act of 2020, which unlocked the potential of wind and solar energy in Virginia while mitigating energy demand through energy efficiency programs. Shortly thereafter, the 117th Congress took historic steps towards modernizing our energy policy with the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act through tax credits, grants, and other incentives promoting and accelerating the use of clean energy and energy efficiency technologies.

Now, as a member of Congress, I remain laser-focused on building on these critical first steps.

Meanwhile, the Trump administration and congressional Republicans actively undermine our ability to meet growing energy demands without increasing prices and health risks for American families or further endangering our planet. Congressional Republicans adopted a budget resolution that sets the stage for repealing the energy tax credits, which would have incentivized well over 90% of the electricity generation poised to come onto the grid. The Trump administration looks to cancel a host of grants and loans that would modernize the electric grid and build new energy generation. President Donald Trump has essentially declared war on wind and solar power generation and allowed polluting coal plants set for retirement to continue operating, despite expert agreement that coal generation is more expensive and damaging to our planet and the health of our communities than solar, wind and even some forms of natural gas. At a time when the government, the private sector and research universities should harness and unleash new technologies to meet the moment, the Trump administration's decimation of the federal workforce, attacks on research universities, and tariffs impacting the energy sector hinder our ability to do so.

Our energy policy must evolve to reflect this reality while minimizing the devastating impact energy production can have on vulnerable communities and our fragile planet and keeping electricity affordable and reliable for American families

This makes no sense.

As a mother, I constantly think about the world our children will inherit, and the quality of their lives relies on the energy policies we adopt today. We must consider our children, our environment, our economy, our communities and our global status. Clean energy and energy efficiency cannot be a footnote or afterthought. I will continue fighting to ensure both remain part of our 21st-century energy policy.

Rep. Jennifer McClellan is the first Black woman to represent Virginia in Congress and serves as a leadership member in the Congressional Black Caucus and the New Democrat Coalition. In the current 119th Congress, McClellan sits on the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

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Unleashing the Permian Basin's power for U.S. energy renewal

By U.S. Rep. August Pfluger, R-Texas

It is no secret that our country faces many challenges. From cyberattacks to threats from Russia, China, and more, the time for American energy dominance has never been more critical. The Permian Basin is the geopolitical tool our nation needs, and with President Donald Trump back in office, the oil and gas industry will finally be employed and treated as such.

It is truly a privilege to represent this pivotal region in Congress. Right now, our basin is producing approximately 6.6 million barrels of oil per day — that's over half of America's total crude oil production growth. That production isn't just numbers on a page — it's jobs created, it's families supported, and it's communities thriving.

For the first time in nearly 70 years, the United States has become a net energy exporter. We are now the No. 1 producer of oil and natural gas in the world. But it hasn't been easy getting here. The Biden administration put every possible roadblock in the way, yet the energy industry persevered and worked tirelessly to ensure all Americans had access to the safe, affordable, reliable energy that they needed.

For four years, the Biden administration took an all-of-government approach to wage war on and cripple the energy industry. From one energy policy disaster after the next, the Biden administration imposed burdensome, nonsensical red tape on the energy industry.

Let's take a look at what the Biden administration managed to do in just four years: it canceled the Keystone XL pipeline; halted new oil and gas leasing on federal lands and waters; rejoined the Paris Climate Agreement; proposed punitive methane emission rules; imposed a moratorium on new LNG export permits; raised royalty rates and fees for federal oil and gas leases; used regulatory agencies like the SEC and EPA to pressure banks and financial institutions to divest from fossil fuels; and named new species to the endangered species list, such as the Dune Sagebrush Lizard. The list keeps going.

With President Trump back in office and a Republican-controlled Congress, we are restoring American energy dominance with common-sense policies that are good for all Americans. In fact, the second piece of legislation that President Trump signed into law was my bill to repeal President Joe Biden's ill-conceived natural gas tax. What we must do now is look at all the regulations that stand in the way, and the disincentives that discourage progress, and build on the momentum we already have.

In just under 100 days of President Trump being back in office, it's time to take a look at what Republicans have done. They've declared a national energy emergency; revived the Keystone XL pipeline; unlocked federal lands and waters; secured American energy sovereignty; rolled back several burdensome regulations such as onerous methane and environmental rules; expedited LNG exports; protected access to capital; and systematically dismantled the harmful EPA regulations that threaten our energy sector. And the list keeps going.

But let me be clear: our work is far from done. As President Trump says, we must "Drill, baby, drill." but we can't "drill, baby, drill" when oil is under $60/bbl. Our next immediate task is finding the sweet spot between $76 and $88/bbl.

The future of American energy has never been brighter. We are working toward an energy future that embraces all forms of domestic production, that recognizes the strategic importance of the Permian Basin, and that puts American energy dominance at the center of our national security strategy.

We're laying the groundwork for a future where American energy powers not just our homes and businesses, but also our technological revolution. President Trump's executive orders specifically recognize the importance of reliable energy for emerging technologies like artificial intelligence and data centers. The resurgence of American manufacturing depends on affordable, reliable energy — and that comes from right here in the Permian Basin.

As we continue to make the 119th Congress the most productive Congress in recent history, we will fight to codify as many of President Trump's executive orders as possible. The House has already passed my Protecting American Energy Production Act, which prohibits any federal moratorium on hydraulic fracturing. This legislation will ensure that fracking — a safe, clean, and effective way to produce affordable energy — remains a viable tool for American energy production, and I will work tirelessly to get this legislation, and many others, across the finish line this Congress.

The future of American energy has never been brighter. We are working toward an energy future that embraces all forms of domestic production, that recognizes the strategic importance of the Permian Basin, and that puts American energy dominance at the center of our national security strategy.

SHUTTERSTOCK/ G B HART

Pump jacks and storage tanks in Permian Basin.

Rep. August Pfluger represents Texas' 11th congressional district, which includes the Permian Basin – the nation's largest secure energy supply. He is the first member of Congress to represent Midland and Odessa on the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Rep. Pfluger graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy before serving in the military for over twenty years as a decorated fighter pilot and later as an advisor on the National Security Council during President Trump's first term. He still serves as a colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserves.

Colorado makes the case for clean American energy

By U.S. Rep. Gabe Evans, R-Colo.

Energy powers everything we do — from the homes we live in to the industries that drive our economy, to healthcare, to technology. Supporting an energy approach that prioritizes safe, affordable, and reliable power provides good paying jobs and is critical to national security. Nowhere is this more evident than in my congressional district, Colorado's 8th, which fuels the rest of the state.

The United States and Colorado's 8th district produce the cleanest power in the world, and we need more of it.

Weld County, the north part of the district, is the fourth largest energy-producing county in the nation, producing 82% of oil and 56% of natural gas in Colorado. Adams County, the south part of the district, has the largest natural gas electricity generating facility in Colorado along with the only oil refinery. This refinery produces over one-third of the fuels used daily in our state. Since regional pipelines are at capacity, this local production keeps thousands of tanker trucks from having to import fuel into Colorado, thus reducing costs and saving tens of thousands of tons of carbon emissions annually. The 8th district is also home to other types of energy, including solar, geothermal, and the factory that builds almost half the United States' supply of wind generators.

Wind and solar energy make my district a national leader in renewables while generating billions of dollars for the local community. Colorado's natural gas reserves are among the cleanest in the world, and industry advancements have reduced methane emissions by well over 50% in the last decade, even as oil and gas production has increased.

In fact, districts like mine make the cleanest and most environmentally and socially responsible power anywhere on the planet. Pure Colorado natural gas is about 40% cleaner than Colorado's current electrical grid. If we don't produce it here, the growing worldwide demand for energy will drive production to places like Russia and China. These nations use slave labor, dirty coal, and low-quality natural gas. Merely replacing poor quality Russian natural gas in western Europe with clean American natural gas would save millions of tons of carbon emissions annually. And with at least 12% of the air pollution in the Denver area originating in China, allowing irresponsible nations to produce our power harms us not only economically, but environmentally as well. The United States and Colorado's 8th district produce the cleanest power in the world, and we need more of it.

Recently I went on an "All of the Above" Energy Tour across my district to visit the workers who make this energy a reality. These tradesmen, from electricians to engineers to computer scientists, many unionized, are the backbone of our power grid and the foundation of our energy security. Their skill and dedication keep the lights on across Colorado and the rest of the country.

Because of my district's strong energy presence, I am honored to serve as the first incoming member in fourteen years to be seated on the Energy and Commerce Committee, the oldest and one of the most influential committees in Congress. This gives me a direct role in shaping policies that impact our energy sector and economic competitiveness. To produce more energy, we must cut nonsensical red tape and promote responsible growth in all sectors. This policy is essential to securing America's energy dominance, reducing the cost of living, and protecting the livelihoods of hardworking Coloradans.

In my part of Colorado, it is estimated we will need triple our current amount of electricity in just the next ten years. Both traditional and renewable energy sources will be required. Protecting and promoting variable resources like wind and solar will help. Baseload generation like gas and coal that never turns off is also essential. New technologies must be championed. Making these investments will directly benefit American workers and make a stronger and more diverse energy sector.

As we look to the future, I am committed to advancing policies that put energy security, affordability, and American jobs first. Colorado's 8th district is proof that an all-of-the-above energy strategy works. I will continue fighting for solutions that unleash our full energy potential. America should lead the world in energy innovation instead of relying on foreign nations to keep the lights on. By embracing a comprehensive energy strategy that values all safe, affordable, and reliable solutions, we can create a stronger, cleaner, more secure future for generations to come.

SHUTTERSTOCK/RCARNER

Large wind turbines harnessing electricity in Colorado.

Rep. Gabe Evans is proudly serving Colorado's Eighth Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Prior to serving in public office, Gabe served his country in the U.S. Army as a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter pilot, as an Arvada police officer, and in the Colorado State Legislature. Gabe and his wife, Anne, own and operate a family farm in southern Weld County where they raise their two boys.

We lead, where others merely follow.

Our story started nearly 30 years ago as a small Texas company with 200 miles of natural gas pipelines. Today, we are one of the largest and most diversified energy infrastructure companies in North America moving natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, and refined products globally.

Our world relies on oil and natural gas, and people rely on us to deliver it, wherever and whenever it is needed.

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