

**Ralph M. Hall Opening Statement  
E&C Oversight Plan – Feb 5, 2013**

**Thank you Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be back with the Energy and Commerce Committee and look forward to an aggressive oversight agenda in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress.**

**I am happy to be back on the Health Subcommittee and look forward to the responsibility we will have as The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act continues to be rolled out. We should be able to achieve quality health care without raising taxes, individual mandates, or a government takeover.**

**I am also pleased to serve on the Environment and Economy Subcommittee. We have an abundance of energy in the U.S., with hydraulic fracturing opening up vast new reserves, but the EPA continues to do all it can to stifle the production of petroleum, natural gas, and clean coal.**

**The U.S. Court of Appeal's recent rejection of the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule was a welcomed legal response to the EPA's excessive government regulation. The states do a good job of regulating environmental issues - like my home state of Texas - and I will continue to work to ensure that the EPA does not over-regulate our energy sector.**

**As Chairman of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee I worked to expose the flawed science used by the EPA. I know this Committee has done great work in that regard as well, and I look forward to joining with all of you to continue in that pursuit.**

**Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I yield back**