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6 MARKUP OF

7 H.R. 3616, RELIABLE POWER ACT (BALDERSON);

8 H.R. 1047, GUARANTEEING RELIABILITY THROUGH THE

9 INTERCONNECTION OF DISPATCHABLE POWER (GRID POWER) ACT

10 (BALDERSON);

11 H.R. 3632, POWER PLANT RELIABILITY ACT OF 2025 (GRIFFITH);

12 H.R. 3638, ELECTRIC SUPPLY CHAIN ACT (LATTA);

13 H.R. 3157, STATE ENERGY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (LANGWORTHY);

14 H.R. 3628, STATE PLANNING FOR RELIABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY

15 ACT (EVANS);

16 H.R. 3657, HYDROPOWER RELICENSING TRANSPARENCY ACT (SCHRIER);

17 H.R. 3015, NATIONAL COAL COUNCIL REESTABLISHMENT ACT (RULLI);

18 H.R. 3617, SECURING AMERICA=S CRITICAL MINERALS SUPPLY ACT

19 (JAMES);

20 H.R. 3109, RESEARCHING EFFICIENT FEDERAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR

21 NECESSARY ENERGY REFINING (REFINER) ACT (LATTA);

22 H.R. 3062, PROMOTING CROSS-BORDER ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE ACT

23 (FEDORCHAK);

24 H.R. 1949, UNLOCKING OUR DOMESTIC LNG POTENTIAL ACT OF 2025

25 (PFLUGER); AND

26 H.R. 3668, IMPROVING INTERAGENCY COORDINATION FOR PIPELINE

27 REVIEWS ACT (HUDSON)

28

29 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2025
30 House of Representatives,
31 Committee on Energy and Commerce,
32 Washington, D.C.

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37 The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:14 a.m. in
38 Room 2123, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Brett Guthrie
39 [chair of the committee] presiding.

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41

42 Present: Representatives Guthrie, Latta, Griffith,
43 Bilirakis, Hudson, Carter of Georgia, Palmer, Dunn, Crenshaw,
44 Joyce, Weber, Allen, Balderson, Fulcher, Pfluger,
45 Harshbarger, Miller-Meeks, Cammack, Obernolte, James, Bentz,
46 Houchin, Fry, Langworthy, Kean, Rulli, Evans, Goldman,
47 Fedorchak; Pallone, DeGette, Schakowsky, Matsui, Castor,
48 Tonko, Clarke, Ruiz, Peters, Dingell, Veasey, Kelly,
49 Barragan, Soto, Schrier, Trahan, Fletcher, Auchincloss,
50 Carter of Louisiana, Menendez, Mullin, Landsman, and
51 McClellan.

52

53 Staff Present: Ansley Boylan, Director of Operations;
54 Christian Calvert, Press Assistant; Clara Cargile,
55 Professional Staff Member; Jessica Donlon, General Counsel;
56 Andrew Furman, Professional Staff Member; Sydney Greene,
57 Director of Finance and Logistics; Emily Hale, Staff
58 Assistant; Annabelle Huffman, Clerk; Calvin Huggins, Clerk;
59 Megan Jackson, Staff Director; Noah Jackson, Clerk; Sophie
60 Khanahmadi, Deputy Staff Director; Alex Khlopin, Clerk;
61 Brayden Lacefield, Special Assistant; Mary Martin, Chief
62 Counsel; Sarah Meier, Counsel and Parliamentarian; Joel
63 Miller, Chief Counsel; Ben Mullaney, Press Secretary; Seth
64 Ricketts, Special Assistant; Jackson Rudden, Staff Assistant;
65 Chris Sarley, Member Services/Stakeholder Director; Peter
66 Spencer, Senior Professional Staff Member; Matt VanHyfte,
67 Communications Director; Jane Vickers, Press Assistant;
68 Keegan Cardman, Minority Staff Assistant; Waverly Gordon,
69 Minority Deputy Staff Director and General Counsel; Tiffany
70 Guarascio, Minority Staff Director; Perry Hamilton, Minority
71 Member Services and Outreach Manager; La'Zale Johnson,
72 Minority Intern; Kristopher Pittard, Minority Professional
73 Staff Member; Mary Ann Rickles, Minority Intern; Emma
74 Roehrig, Minority Staff Assistant; Kylea Rogers, Minority
75 Policy Analyst; Destiny Sheppard, Minority Intern; Andrew
76 Souvall, Minority Director of Communications, Outreach, and
77 Member Services; Johanna Thomas, Minority Counsel; and Tuley

78 Wright, Minority Staff Director, ENG.

79

80 *The Chair. The committee will come to order, and the
81 chair will recognize himself for an opening statement.

82 I know everybody is still getting logistics in place,
83 but let's get started so we can get the opening statements
84 moving.

85 So thank you, Chairman Latta and the members of the
86 committee, for your legislative work to unleash American
87 energy and make our electric grid more reliable and
88 affordable. Today the full committee has taken up 13 bills
89 that will lead to the production of more American energy,
90 remove regulatory burdens to electric generation, and help us
91 win the race to power AI for the good of the country.

92 We have had multiple hearings this Congress already
93 during which we have heard that the U.S. must be able to
94 power our technology future. For the U.S. to win the AI
95 race, we must produce significantly more -- 365 days a year,
96 24 hours a day, 7 days a week -- power to run AI data
97 centers. We heard from witnesses that not all electrons are
98 a one-for-one substitute, and that we should not be taking
99 baseload power plants offline without sufficient and
100 comparable replacements.

101 I remind my colleagues, if AI data centers running the
102 world's most advanced models could run only on wind and solar
103 power, they would be doing so.

104 To fuel American energy abundance, lower prices for

105 American households, and to make the U.S. more energy secure,
106 the bills before us today address obstacles to an efficient
107 and cost effective infrastructure development.

108 This important legislation also identifies opportunities
109 to expand our refining capacity to improve our hydropower
110 permitting process, secure energy supply chains, increase LNG
111 exports, and streamline the permitting of natural gas
112 pipelines.

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

118 And I am sincerely disappointed that more of these bills
119 are not bipartisan, because I know that all of us agree that
120 winning the AI race and guaranteeing we have sufficient
121 amounts of the right kind of power -- I know that we all
122 agree on that, and it shouldn't be a partisan issue. I agree
123 that wind and solar should be part of our overall strategy,
124 but I disagree with the idea that wind and solar storage is
125 going to provide the type of power needed to run AI data
126 centers. Most energy experts and technology companies
127 themselves have not supported that approach either, because
128 wind and solar with storage do not provide the necessary
129 reliability.

130 Time is of the essence, and I hope my Democratic
131 colleagues will recognize the critical importance of this
132 issue. I know you do, and I want to know we will work
133 together, and I will put my sincere effort to everyone on the
134 committee that we will work together because I know we all
135 together want to put our country first and beat China in the
136 race to AI dominance.

137 Thank you, and I will yield back. I recognize the
138 ranking member, Congressman Pallone from New Jersey, for five
139 minutes for his opening statement.

140 *Mr. Pallone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

141 Today the committee is marking up a series of energy
142 bills. All but one of these bills will make our electric
143 grid more expensive, less reliable, and, frankly, dirtier.

144 Last month, when we marked up the Republicans' big, ugly
145 bill, there were four provisions that created pay-to-play
146 schemes. One of the provisions allowed big oil and gas to
147 simply buy whatever permit they want. Another provision
148 allowed natural gas producers to ship American LNG abroad,
149 including to adversaries like China, so long as the company
150 paid \$1 million for the pleasure. And as of this week, there
151 are zero pay-to-play provisions in the bill after the Senate
152 parliamentarian nixed the final one earlier this week.

153 So now Republicans are trying to move these bills to
154 regular order to achieve those same schemes. It is time for

155 Republicans to get serious and realize that real permitting
156 reform must include transmission and clean energy, and must
157 be bipartisan. But today we aren't seeing much
158 bipartisanship at all. Instead of figuring out how to get
159 more power of all types on the grid, Republicans just want to
160 prioritize new natural gas plants. They want Americans to
161 pay even higher energy bills just to keep old, expensive coal
162 plants online forever, and they want to use the increase in
163 power demand, in my opinion, as an excuse to kill every EPA
164 regulation that impacts power plants. And to top it all off,
165 they want to increase home energy prices just to allow oil
166 and gas companies to send unlimited amounts of American
167 energy resources overseas. And these Republican actions
168 prioritize polluters over people.

169 But before we get into the details of the bills, I just
170 wanted to draw attention to how they fit into a broader trend
171 of Republican energy policy, which I think is reckless.
172 Republicans aren't interested in addressing climate events
173 like dangerous heat waves, or even equipping their
174 constituents with the tools and appliances to better cool and
175 protect their homes. They are not interested in lowering
176 energy costs or beating out China with new technologies. All
177 they want to do is undermine clean energy, make energy more
178 expensive, and allow big oil and gas to build whatever they
179 want whenever they want, and regardless of the consequences.

180 And this is the same party that is repealing incentives that
181 help get more energy on the grid faster, even though demand
182 is rapidly growing, and it is the same party that is
183 proposing zeroing out energy assistance, even though it is
184 over 100 degrees outside and Americans are struggling to cool
185 their homes.

186 So the reality is, just when we need more homegrown
187 American energy the most, Republicans are pursuing an energy
188 policy that will make it harder for most Americans to get
189 access to the energy that they desperately need.

190 And Republicans themselves are worried about the actual
191 impacts of their own energy policy, and that is why you saw
192 the President desperately tweeting at the Department of
193 Energy on Monday, begging for DoE to drill, baby drill. Now,
194 DoE doesn't regulate oil and gas drilling, but I wouldn't
195 expect the President wouldn't necessarily know that. It just
196 underscores that Republicans are afraid of Americans actually
197 experiencing the results of Republicans' catastrophic energy
198 policies.

199 The truth is that I don't believe the Republicans have
200 ever been for an all-of-the-above approach to energy. In
201 fact, Energy Secretary Wright made that abundantly clear when
202 he was in front of this committee two weeks ago. At that
203 hearing Democrats pressed the Secretary about Elon Musk's
204 gutting of DoE and the loss of valuable expertise. But

205 rather than help us get to the bottom of the agency's
206 capacity to take on new work when thousands have been fired,
207 Republicans want to simply pretend this problem doesn't
208 exist, and they are clearly content to give the agency more
209 work without any understanding as to how it will complete its
210 work with significantly reduced staff.

211 So today we are going to hear from Republicans that
212 these bills are necessary to meet the growing energy demand
213 from artificial intelligence. And I can't be clearer about
214 this. I just want to say to my colleagues on the other side,
215 if you want to strengthen the grid to enable new
216 technologies, these bills are the exact opposite of what you
217 should be doing. If you really want to meet growing demand,
218 then work with us on legislation that truly supports all
219 energy projects, all of the above, especially those that can
220 be built quickly and that produce energy Americans can
221 actually afford. But that is not what we are seeing.

222 And with that, I yield back the balance of my time, Mr.
223 Chairman.

224 *The Chair. Thank you. The gentleman yields back, and
225 the chair reminds members that, pursuant to the committee
226 rules, all members' opening statements will be made part of
227 the record.

228 Are there further opening statements?

229 The gentleman from Ohio is recognized for three minutes

230 for an opening statement.

231 *Mr. Latta. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

232 During the 119th Congress E&C has received extensive
233 testimony regarding systemic problems that are undermining
234 our energy system and the grave national and economic
235 security implications for failed U.S. leadership. Over the
236 next 10 years, 115 gigawatts of dispatchable generation have
237 been announced being retired, while demand is estimated
238 increased by upwards of 151 gigawatts. The free world is
239 watching.

240 The bills before us today take us one step closer to
241 reaffirming American energy dominance. This includes the
242 Reliable Power Act to empower FERC as a reliability cop on
243 the beat for the Federal Government; and the Grid Power Act
244 to prioritize resources in the queue that are necessary for
245 maintaining reliability and stability of the bulk power
246 system.

247 While it is necessary to prevent a future Clean Power
248 Plan 3.0, several states have taken it upon themselves to
249 continue driving premature retirements of baseload
250 generation. That is why the State Energy Accountability Act
251 and the State Planning for Reliability and Affordability Act
252 will bring additional transparency and accountability to
253 state actions and undermine access to reliable energy (sic).

254 To provide FERC with an additional tool to address

255 reliability challenges, the Power Plan Reliability Act
256 provides an enhanced pathway to securing the electric grid in
257 the event of a premature closure.

258 We are also considering the Improving Interagency
259 Coordination for Review of Natural Gas Pipelines Act;
260 Unlocking our Domestic LNG Potential Act of 2025, my REFINER
261 Act; and Promoting Cross-border Energy Infrastructure Act.
262 Together these bills will unleash our abundant natural
263 resources and establish more efficient processes for the
264 delivery of energy supplies needed to power next-generation
265 industries.

266 One bill that is not on our markup is the Expediting
267 Generator Interconnection Procedure Act, introduced by my
268 colleague from Florida's 14th district, the ranking member of
269 the Energy Subcommittee. While our staffs continue having
270 conversations about the legislation, the bill in its current
271 form mandates aggressive reforms to the interconnection
272 process before FERC has even fully implemented order 2023,
273 which already included important queue reforms.

274 I am also concerned that many of the provisions we are
275 already -- were already considered and set aside in the
276 development of order 2023 because of opposition from grid
277 operators, rural co-ops, and affected stakeholders. I commit
278 to continue working across the aisle to improve our
279 understanding of needed interconnection reforms.

280 All together, the bills under consideration today take
281 an important step toward reaffirming American energy
282 dominance for years to come, and addressing the ongoing
283 reliability crisis facing our nation.

284 And, Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

285 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back, and the chair
286 recognizes the gentlelady from Florida, Ms. Castor, for three
287 minutes for an opening statement.

288 *Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

289 Colleagues, this package of GOP bills fails to meet the
290 moment. It fails to meet the affordability and energy
291 challenges for our families and businesses back home. These
292 are backward-looking policies and, combined with the anti-
293 energy provisions of the big, ugly bill, will raise
294 electricity bills, constrain energy supply, cost jobs, hurt
295 our competitive edge, and turn a blind eye to the cost and
296 impacts of the heating climate.

297 You know, America was enjoying an energy manufacturing
298 boom after Congress passed a historic clean energy and
299 climate resilience law in 2022: 400,000 new jobs in nuclear,
300 geothermal, batteries, solar, wind, and EVs. We were making
301 progress on reshoring critical supply chains and developing
302 industries that China hoped that we would ignore. But in
303 just the past six months, President Trump and congressional
304 Republicans have managed to sabotage our progress.

305 To date, the GOP is responsible for the demise of over
306 794 clean electricity projects, 1.6 million lost jobs, and a
307 sidelining of over 500 billion in private investment. And
308 the -- and Trump's arbitrary tariffs are making it worse.
309 Companies are responding to this uncertainty by canceling
310 projects all across the country. Over \$500 billion worth of
311 clean energy projects were canceled in the first five months
312 of this year alone. Meanwhile, U.S. electricity demand is
313 forecast to increase by 128 gigawatts in the next 4 years.

314 So what do Republicans propose? Policies that will
315 decrease new electricity capacity additions by 302 gigawatts
316 by 2035. That is enough to power 227 million homes.
317 Wholesale electricity prices are poised to spike by 50
318 percent. So if Republicans have their way, we will not build
319 the energy we need to power U.S. leadership in artificial
320 intelligence or advanced manufacturing. That is a gift to
321 China.

322 This week the United -- the eastern United States is
323 facing a record-breaking extreme heat wave driven by climate
324 change. It is straining our electric grid and making thermal
325 power plants like gas less efficient. The Republicans' big,
326 ugly bill will make it harder for working families to deal
327 with this heat, increasing average household energy costs by
328 up to \$400 per year.

329 I regret that Republicans continue to bury their heads

330 in the sand and ignore these challenges. And unfortunately,
331 today's package of bills is going to make things worse. And
332 the GOP will own the energy price shocks and the higher cost
333 in the months and years ahead.

334 The heating climate isn't just about the weather, it is
335 about our wallets, and it is also about our moral obligation
336 to our kids and future generations to be able to handle the
337 cost and the impacts of the heating climate. Nothing in
338 today's package of bills sufficiently meets the urgency of
339 this moment.

340 This committee should lead on common-sense policies like
341 upgrading our electric grid or modernizing our
342 interconnection process to deliver more affordable energy to
343 our neighbors back home. And when our Republican colleagues
344 get serious, Democrats remain ready to work with them on all
345 of these issues.

346 I yield back the balance of my time.

347 *The Chair. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back.

348 Are there any further opening statements?

349 The gentlelady from California, Ms. Matsui, is
350 recognized for three minutes for an opening statement.

351 *Ms. Matsui. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

352 Unfortunately, I have to say that this markup is a complete
353 sham.

354 Republicans have spent five hearings this year raising

355 the alarm about rising energy demands from artificial
356 intelligence. I am eager to work together on meaningful,
357 bipartisan solutions to strengthen our electric grid and
358 lower costs for customers. But here we are, six months into
359 the year, and Republicans have shown zero interest in working
360 across the aisle on serious bipartisan legislation. Instead,
361 all Republicans have to offer are these old, stale ideas that
362 have been kicking around for years.

363 With the exception of Congresswoman Schrier's hydropower
364 bill, many of the bills we are considering today are the same
365 bills this committee marked up two years ago. And there is a
366 reason they have been kicking around for years: these bills
367 are bad ideas, and they are going nowhere.

368 So what are the Republicans actually doing? President
369 Trump is actively hollowing out the very Federal agencies
370 that are responsible for powering our country. Trump has
371 forced out thousands of workers at the Department of Energy,
372 shuttering programs and illegally withholding funding for
373 energy projects. Trump is even refusing to allow new Federal
374 permits -- wind farms, despite wind energy providing more
375 than 10 percent of U.S. electricity. With just a wave of his
376 hand, Trump is trying to wipe out an entire American
377 industry. Is this the Republican plan for energy abundance?

378 Meanwhile, congressional Republicans' big bill
379 boondoggle slashes hundreds of billions of dollars in Federal

380 incentives for new energy projects. Already, because of
381 Republicans' attacks on our Federal energy programs, more
382 than \$1 billion in new energy projects have been canceled
383 every single month in 2025. And this is just the beginning.
384 If Republicans' tax bill passes, thousands of hard-working
385 Americans will lose their jobs, and families across the
386 country will see their energy bills go up by nearly \$300 a
387 year. Once again, I ask, is this really the Republicans'
388 plan for energy abundance?

389 If my Republican colleagues are serious about fixing our
390 electric grid, reducing energy costs, and meeting the energy
391 demands of AI, then they need to work with Democrats on real
392 solutions. We need forward-looking bipartisan legislation,
393 not the same old slate of special interest giveaways.

394 I yield back the balance of my time.

395 *The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Are there any
396 further opening statements?

397 The gentleman from New York, you are recognized for
398 three minutes for an opening statement.

399 *Mr. Tonko. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

400 Now, I sincerely believe you want to figure out how
401 Congress can support a modernized, reliable, and affordable
402 electric system during this time of growing demand.
403 According to ICF, demand could grow some 25 percent by 2030,
404 and residential prices could rise 15 to 40 percent over the

405 next 5 years. This is a monumental task which will become
406 even more difficult if Republicans' reconciliation bill
407 successfully repeals energy tax credits that incentivize
408 deploying new, cost-competitive generation to bring more
409 electrons onto the grid as quickly as possible.

410 Now, Mr. Chair, I also believe you think U.S. AI
411 leadership is a national security and economic imperative,
412 and a lot of members on this side of the aisle agree with you
413 on both accounts. But the approach that has been taken by
414 the committee thus far, in my opinion, is all wrong.

415 At the subcommittee's markup of these bills, multiple
416 Democratic members, myself included, expressed an interest
417 and willingness to sit down and try to work together on
418 bipartisan solutions that will actually respond to the
419 challenges facing our electricity system. Instead, the
420 majority is continuing to push partisan bills that will
421 likely go nowhere in the Senate.

422 Now, I understand that this is easier than doing the
423 hard work of bipartisan legislating, but it will not lead to
424 durable policies that rapidly put on electrons on the grid
425 while protecting ratepayers. And in fact, reaching consensus
426 on potential bipartisan solutions will become harder if we
427 see a continued commitment to partisan policies with the
428 primary goal of keeping uncompetitive favored generators
429 running.

430 Again, I want to urge the majority to reconsider its
431 strategy, and state my openness to working together on
432 legislation that will support expanding the grid, especially
433 our transmission infrastructure, in ways that have been
434 called for by many experts' testimony before this committee.

435 And with that I yield back and thank you, Mr. Chair.

436 *The Chair. Thank you. The gentleman, Mr. Tonko,
437 yields back. Is there any further opening statements?

438 Seeing none, before we get into the markup, I think the
439 last time we were in full committee markup we were talking
440 about disparaging each other and using names. We can call
441 each other -- like, Mr. Tonko I just called my friend, Mr.
442 Tonko, or Mr. Pallone, or Ms. Castor. The point for that is
443 -- decorum is not to use someone's name to call them out in a
444 way that is negative. So we can -- because last time you
445 remember I had to say, the gentleman from Texas is
446 recognized, and we had two Texans start speaking. And one is
447 enough, so I am --

448 [Laughter.]

449 *The Chair. So I am going to call people by name,
450 right, Mr. -- and then the other one is, I think, the word,
451 "lie." I just suggest we don't use it at all, but you can --
452 -- a class of people: "The Republicans are lying to you about
453 this, the Democrats are lying." What you can't say is, "The
454 gentleman from New Jersey or the gentleman from Kentucky,"

455 and direct that at any person or -- the President is included
456 in the rules, as well.

457 So we can use each other's last names as we recognize
458 each other in a positive way. So I just want to make sure
459 that we work that way together.

460 So I will move to the markup, and the chair calls up the
461 committee print H.R. 3616, and asks the clerk to report.

462 *The Clerk. Committee print, H.R. 3616, a bill to
463 require the Federal --

464 *The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the
465 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for any
466 amendment at any point.

467 So ordered.

468 [The bill follows:]

469

470 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

471

472 *The Chair. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the
473 bill?

474 *Mr. Balderson. Mr. Chairman?

475 *The Chair. The gentleman from Ohio, Mr. Balderson, is
476 recognized.

477 *Mr. Balderson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to
478 strike the last word and speak in support --

479 *The Chair. The gentleman is recognized to speak on the
480 bill.

481 *Mr. Balderson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you
482 again, Chairman Guthrie, for holding this important markup
483 today and moving forward with this bill.

484 The Reliable Power Act would ensure proper coordination
485 between the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or FERC,
486 and Federal agencies issuing regulations impacting the bulk
487 power system such as the Department of Energy and EPA. This
488 bill builds off the GRID Act, which was introduced by my
489 friend and former colleague, Chairman Jeff Duncan, and passed
490 the full committee last Congress. The Reliable Power Act
491 provides Federal accountability for reliability, and ensures
492 regulations that involve power generation, protect the
493 reliability of the electric grid, and ultimately protecting
494 our constituents.

495 First, the bill would require NERC, the electric
496 reliability organization, to conduct annual long-term

497 reliability assessments of the bulk power system. If NERC
498 finds the bulk power system is at risk of not having adequate
499 generation to supply sufficient energy to maintain an
500 adequate level of reliability, it must notify FERC that the
501 system is in a state of generation inadequacy.

502 The bill will require then -- the bill would then direct
503 FERC to notify the Department of Energy, the EPA, and any
504 agency it determines appropriate of the state of generation
505 inadequacy. Upon such notice, the notified agency is
506 required to send rules under development and impact
507 generation resources to FERC for review and comment, and
508 recommendations to prevent significant impacts on the ability
509 of the grid to supply sufficient energy to maintain an
510 adequate level of reliability.

511 Under the Reliable Power Act, a new rule that affects
512 generation resources can be finalized if FERC determines the
513 rule would have a significant negative impact on the ability
514 of the grid to supply sufficient energy to maintain an
515 adequate level of reliability.

516 This committee has heard from many voices over the
517 years, including FERC, the Department of Energy, power
518 providers, and the actual grid operators about the very real
519 reliability crisis our grid is facing. It is critical that
520 we maintain reliability and efficient generation.
521 Unfortunately, the previous administration issued a number of

522 rules targeting our most reliable power plants, including the
523 Clean Power Plan 2.0, without proper input or feedback from
524 our grid experts.

525 The Reliable Power Act sets clear accountability and
526 coordination standards to ensure the Federal regulations
527 support, rather than threaten, the strength and dependability
528 of our power system.

529 I am proud this bill has the support of the American
530 Public Power Association and the National Rural Electric
531 Cooperative Association. These organizations represent the
532 nation's 2,000 not-for-profit, community-owned electric
533 utilities and 900 local electric cooperatives. Together they
534 serve nearly 100 million people across the country.

535 I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to
536 support this bill to ensure further administrations and rogue
537 Federal bureaucrats can't finalize rules that jeopardize the
538 reliability of the electric grid and the safety of our
539 constituents.

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

541 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
542 further discussion on the bill?

543 Seeing no further discussion on the bill, is there --
544 are there any amendments?

545 Oh, the gentleman from Georgia is recognized for five
546 minutes to discuss the bill -- to speak on the bill.

547 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike
548 the last word.

549 *The Chair. You are recognized to speak on the bill.

550 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I am proud to
551 cosponsor H.R. 3616, the Reliable Power Act, and I thank my
552 friend, Representative Balderson, for introducing this bill.

553 This bill amends the Federal Power Act to require
554 coordination between FERC and any Federal agency looking to
555 finalize a regulation that could affect the electric
556 generation essential to grid reliability. It would also
557 prevent any covered Federal rule from being finalized if FERC
558 determines it would cause a substantial negative impact on
559 grid reliability.

560 In a time where AI is on the rise and electricity demand
561 is forecast to skyrocket across the country, we must look
562 carefully at any rule that may impact reliable power. Our
563 grid is the engine that keeps the lights on in homes and
564 keeps factories producing goods here in America. We cannot
565 afford to jeopardize it. H.R. 3616 ensures that American
566 citizens and businesses can be confident that the Federal
567 Government will not implement policies that jeopardize their
568 access to power.

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

570 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
571 further discussion on the bill on the Democratic side, on the

572 -- Dr. Joyce, you are now recognized for five minutes to
573 speak on the bill.

574 *Mr. Joyce. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I seek
575 recognition, as you said, to speak in support of the bill.

576 The Reliable Power Act is a strong piece of legislation
577 necessary to maintain resource adequacy in our power system.
578 And I want to thank Representative Balderson and the
579 committee for working to advance this important legislation.
580 Federal policy from the Biden Administration disincentivized
581 the development of new generation and has led to severe
582 reliability concerns in Pennsylvania, raising energy costs
583 and putting my constituents at risk of mass outages,
584 especially when facing the severe weather that we have seen
585 just this week.

586 This legislation will allow FERC to step in if proposed
587 Federal regulations would have a negative effect on the
588 reliability of our power system, preventing such regulations
589 from being finalized. And I urge my colleagues to vote in
590 favor of this legislation.

591 Thank you, and I yield back.

592 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
593 further discussion on the bill?

594 Seeing none, are there any bipartisan amendments to the
595 bill?

596 Seeing none, are there any amendments on the bill?

597 The gentlelady from Colorado, for what purpose do you
598 seek recognition?

599 *Ms. DeGette. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the
600 desk labeled FC_HR3616_38.

601 *The Chair. The clerk will report the amendment. Do
602 you have the amendment? The clerk will report.

603 *The Clerk. Amendment to the committee print for H.R.
604 3616, offered by Ms. DeGette.

605 *The Chair. Without objection, the reading of the
606 amendment is dispensed with.

607 [The amendment of Ms. DeGette follows:]

608

609 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

610

611 *The Chair. And the gentlelady from Colorado is
612 recognized for five minutes in support of the amendment.

613 *Ms. DeGette. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

614 For those of you who weren't on the Energy Subcommittee
615 last year, we received testimony from a FERC official on a
616 prior version of this bill two years ago, when I was ranking
617 member. He was unequivocal. FERC at the time did not have
618 the staff capacity to execute the bill as written.

619 Frankly, this is still a concern. When FERC came in
620 April to offer testimony on the bill, their acting general
621 counsel stated, "FERC does not have the depth of extent of
622 computing resources to do the full scope of analysis required
623 as to some of those other agencies' actions that might be
624 subject.'"

625 At the Energy Subcommittee markup I offered an amendment
626 to assuage those concerns, preventing the bill from going
627 into effect until FERC certified that it had sufficient
628 capacity to carry out the amendment. Unfortunately, this
629 amendment was not adopted.

630 The gentleman from Ohio, the sponsor of the bill,
631 indicated he thought the safeguards in the first part of the
632 bill -- namely that NERC must declare there is a risk the
633 grid won't be reliable and can get data from the RTOs -- was
634 sufficient. But unfortunately, in just the last few weeks,
635 we have seen that that is not the case. As was explained at

636 FERC's technical conference a few weeks ago, either NERC got
637 bad data from MISO, or NERC interpreted the -- misinterpreted
638 the data from MISO. It declared MISO at a high risk of a
639 reliability problem over the next five years, but in fact it
640 was not a high risk.

641 And so, Mr. Chairman, I have an article about this which
642 I ask unanimous consent to insert into the record.

643 *The Chair. Without objection --

644 *Ms. DeGette. Thank you.

645 *The Chair. -- so ordered.

646 [The information follows:]

647

648 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

649

650 *Ms. DeGette. I want to be clear. I am not intending
651 this as an attack on NERC or on our grid operators. They are
652 doing an extremely important job, and they are doing it with
653 extremely limited resources. That is exactly the reason why
654 we shouldn't burden this already over-burdened agency the
655 ability to grant FERC the power to kill EPA regulations. If
656 a single miscommunication can trigger a misstatement of risk
657 and, in turn, these new powers, that would be a real concern,
658 especially if, as the gentleman from Ohio indicated, the
659 bill's authors relied on solid data and interpretation from
660 NERC and the grid operators to make up for FERC's lack of
661 staffing or computing capabilities.

662 So my amendment does two things. First, it says NERC's
663 triggering of new powers for FERC should only happen if NERC
664 finds there is a high risk of reliability outages, a higher
665 threshold that should be harder to reach by accident.
666 Second, it turns off NERC's triggering authority for a year
667 if NERC has incorporated inaccurate or mismatched data into
668 its reliability forecast.

669 If we are going to give NERC this power, we have got to
670 ensure that it has good data going into its models, not
671 faulty or misleading data. I think this should be kind of a
672 no-brainer for this committee to adopt, because if NERC's
673 computing and analysis is foundational to the bill's success,
674 we need to make sure that both are ironclad. So I urge

675 support for my amendment.

676 And I yield back.

677 *The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there
678 further discussion on the amendment?

679 The gentleman from Ohio is recognized in discussion of
680 the amendment -- to speak on the amendment.

681 *Mr. Balderson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like
682 to strike the last word to speak in opposition to this --

683 *The Chair. The gentleman is recognized to speak on the
684 amendment.

685 *Mr. Balderson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

686 H.R. 3616, the Reliable Power Act, establishes Federal
687 accountability at FERC for the reliability of our electric
688 grid. It requires the ERO, or the North American Electric
689 Reliability Corporation, NERC, to conduct annual long
690 assessments (sic) to determine whether more power generation
691 is needed to maintain an adequate level of reliability.

692 NERC has been doing assessments for decades, and
693 conducts a robust, independent, peer-reviewed process. It is
694 the gold standard for reliability assessments across North
695 America. This amendment says that if there is data error
696 found in the previous year's assessment, NERC may not notify
697 FERC about generation inadequacy that triggers FERC review of
698 the rules.

699 There was recently a mismatch data identified in NERC's

700 annual, long-term assessment provided by a transmission
701 organizer. That error was corrected immediately. The
702 process worked. And even in that case, the corrected
703 assessment still shows the region at elevated risk of
704 shortfalls and power in the next few years, and still at high
705 risk of power shortfalls, depending on state of generation in
706 the out years.

707 This amendment would deprive the public of the benefits
708 of the review when the nation faces generation inadequacy.
709 The Reliable Power Act places accountability for reliability
710 with FERC, and incentivizes improved agency regulations on
711 generating facilities important to the electric grid.

712 I urge a no vote on this amendment and a yes vote on the
713 Reliable Power Act.

714 I yield back, Mr. Chair.

715 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
716 further discussion on the amendment?

717 The gentleman from New Jersey, for what purpose do you
718 seek recognition?

719 *Mr. Menendez. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last
720 word.

721 *The Chair. The gentleman is recognized --

722 *Mr. Menendez. Thank you --

723 *The Chair. -- to speak on the amendment.

724 *Mr. Menendez. Thank you, Chairman.

725 I want to strongly support Representative DeGette's
726 amendment, and note that Democrats are working in good faith
727 to try and improve this bizarre bill that Republicans have
728 created, only to have Republicans decline to help. This is
729 part of a multi-year crusade by Republicans to try and slash
730 and burn every environmental regulation they can get their
731 hands on, and somehow make FERC the supreme arbiter of all
732 regulations that could possibly impact the power sector.

733 Never mind that other agencies have other
734 considerations, as Congress requires them to. They don't
735 want to do the hard work of balancing trade-offs and
736 statutory goals. Never mind that FERC and NERC and grid
737 operators and utilities and just about everyone in the power
738 sector already has the ability to make the EPA or any other
739 regulator respond to their concerns via the typical rule
740 comment process. This isn't about hearing out concerns; it
741 is about giving a green light to ignoring environmental rules
742 whenever it is convenient for polluters.

743 FERC testified before the Energy Subcommittee twice in
744 the last two years that it lacked the resources to implement
745 this bill, but Republicans insist on plowing ahead with the
746 bill anyway. Just last week NERC revealed that there was an
747 issue with their long-term reliability assessment and the
748 data it got from the Midwest Grid Operator, the same
749 reliability assessment that Republicans want to trigger

750 massive new powers for FERC under this bill. But rather than
751 confront the potential issues there, they insist on
752 continuing down the path they set out, no matter the facts or
753 the reality.

754 Representative DeGette's amendment is easy. It says
755 that, as long as there are questions about the data quality
756 going into NERC assessments, then you shouldn't allow them to
757 grant massive new authority to FERC based on those
758 assessments. This should be a no-brainer. If we are going
759 to grant FERC new powers, we want to make sure we are doing
760 it for the right reasons and with the right data.

761 If Republicans reject this amendment, I can only assume
762 it means that, like the rest of the bills on today's markup,
763 they are not actually interested in working towards
764 bipartisan solutions, only regurgitating old ideas time after
765 time again while the nation's problems mount.

766 Thank you, and I yield back.

767 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
768 further discussion on amendments?

769 Seeing none, if there is no further discussion on the
770 amendment, the vote occurs on the amendment.

771 All those in favor shall signify by saying aye.

772 *Mr. Pallone. We want a roll call.

773 *The Chair. All those opposed, nay.

774 It sounds like the nay has it, but the roll call has

775 been requested, and -- the gentleman requested a roll call
776 vote, and the clerk will call the roll.

777 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

778 *Mr. Latta. No.

779 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.

780 Mr. Griffith?

781 *Mr. Griffith. No.

782 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.

783 Mr. Bilirakis?

784 *Mr. Bilirakis. No.

785 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes no.

786 Mr. Hudson?

787 [No response.]

788 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter?

789 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. No.

790 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.

791 Mr. Palmer?

792 *Mr. Palmer. No.

793 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.

794 Mr. Dunn?

795 *Mr. Dunn. No.

796 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.

797 Mr. Crenshaw?

798 *Mr. Crenshaw. No.

799 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.

800 Mr. Joyce?
801 *Mr. Joyce. No.
802 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.
803 Mr. Weber?
804 *Mr. Weber. No.
805 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes no.
806 Mr. Allen?
807 *Mr. Allen. No.
808 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes no.
809 Mr. Balderson?
810 *Mr. Balderson. No.
811 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes no.
812 Mr. Fulcher?
813 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is no.
814 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes no.
815 Mr. Pfluger?
816 *Mr. Pfluger. No.
817 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes no.
818 Mrs. Harshbarger?
819 *Mrs. Harshbarger. No.
820 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.
821 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
822 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. No.
823 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes no.
824 Mrs. Cammack?

825 [No response.]
826 *The Clerk. Mr. Oubernolte?
827 *Mr. Oubernolte. No.
828 *The Clerk. Mr. Oubernolte votes no.
829 Mr. James?
830 *Mr. James. No.
831 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes no.
832 Mr. Bentz?
833 *Mr. Bentz. No.
834 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes no.
835 Mrs. Houchin?
836 *Mrs. Houchin. No.
837 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes no.
838 Mr. Fry?
839 *Mr. Fry. No.
840 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes no.
841 Ms. Lee?
842 [No response.]
843 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
844 *Mr. Langworthy. No.
845 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes no.
846 Mr. Kean?
847 [No response.]
848 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli?
849 *Mr. Rulli. No.

850 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes on.
851 Mr. Evans?
852 *Mr. Evans. No.
853 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes no.
854 Mr. Goldman?
855 *Mr. Goldman. No.
856 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes no.
857 Mrs. Fedorchak?
858 [No response.]
859 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone?
860 *Mr. Pallone. Aye.
861 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.
862 Ms. DeGette?
863 *Ms. DeGette. Aye.
864 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.
865 Ms. Schakowsky?
866 *Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.
867 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.
868 Ms. Matsui?
869 *Ms. Matsui. Aye.
870 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.
871 Ms. Castor?
872 *Ms. Castor. Aye.
873 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.
874 Mr. Tonko?

875 *Mr. Tonko. Aye.
876 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.
877 Ms. Clarke?
878 *Ms. Clarke. Aye.
879 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.
880 Mr. Ruiz?
881 *Mr. Ruiz. Aye.
882 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.
883 Mr. Peters?
884 *Mr. Peters. Aye.
885 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.
886 Mrs. Dingell?
887 *Mrs. Dingell. Aye.
888 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.
889 Mr. Veasey?
890 *Mr. Veasey. Aye.
891 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.
892 Ms. Kelly?
893 *Ms. Kelly. Aye.
894 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.
895 Ms. Barragan?
896 *Ms. Barragan. Aye.
897 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.
898 Mr. Soto?
899 *Mr. Soto. Aye.

900 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.
901 Ms. Schrier?
902 *Ms. Schrier. Aye.
903 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.
904 Mrs. Trahan?
905 *Mrs. Trahan. Aye.
906 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.
907 Mrs. Fletcher?
908 *Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.
909 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.
910 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
911 [No response.]
912 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
913 *Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.
914 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.
915 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?
916 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.
917 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.
918 Mr. Menendez?
919 *Mr. Menendez. Aye.
920 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.
921 Mr. Mullin?
922 *Mr. Mullin. Aye.
923 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.
924 Mr. Landsman?

925 *Mr. Landsman. Aye.

926 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.

927 Ms. McClellan?

928 *Ms. McClellan. Aye.

929 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.

930 Chairman Guthrie?

931 *The Chair. No.

932 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes no.

933 *Mr. Latta. [Presiding.] Are there other members

934 wishing to record your vote?

935 The gentlelady from Florida.

936 *Mrs. Cammack. No.

937 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes no.

938 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman from North Carolina, how is

939 he recorded?

940 *Mr. Hudson. Hudson votes no.

941 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.

942 *Mr. Latta. The clerk will call the roll.

943 *The Clerk. Chairman Latta, on that vote there were 23

944 ayes and 27 noes.

945 *Mr. Latta. The amendment is not agreed to. Are there

946 any further amendments?

947 Hearing none, the question now occurs on approving the

948 committee print of H.R. 3616.

949 All those in favor will signify by saying aye.

950 Those opposed, no.

951 And a roll call has been requested. The clerk will call
952 the roll.

953 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

954 *Mr. Latta. Aye.

955 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

956 Mr. Griffith?

957 *Mr. Griffith. Aye.

958 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

959 Mr. Bilirakis?

960 *Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.

961 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

962 Mr. Hudson?

963 *Mr. Hudson. Aye.

964 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

965 Mr. Carter?

966 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.

967 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.

968 Mr. Palmer?

969 [No response.]

970 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?

971 *Mr. Dunn. Aye.

972 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.

973 Mr. Crenshaw?

974 [No response.]

975
976 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce?
977 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.
978 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.
979 Mr. Weber?
980 *Mr. Weber. Yes.
981 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.
982 Mr. Allen?
983 *Mr. Allen. Aye.
984 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.
985 Mr. Balderson?
986 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.
987 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.
988 Mr. Fulcher?
989 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is aye.
990 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.
991 Mr. Pfluger?
992 *Mr. Pfluger. Aye.
993 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes aye.
994 Mrs. Harshbarger?
995 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.
996 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.
997 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
998 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Yes.
999 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.

1000 Mrs. Cammack?
1001 [No response.]
1002 *The Clerk. Mr. Oubernolte?
1003 *Mr. Oubernolte. Aye.
1004 *The Clerk. Mr. Oubernolte votes aye.
1005 Mr. James?
1006 *Mr. James. Aye.
1007 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.
1008 Mr. Bentz?
1009 *Mr. Bentz. Aye.
1010 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.
1011 Mrs. Houchin?
1012 *Mrs. Houchin. Aye.
1013 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.
1014 Mr. Fry?
1015 *Mr. Fry. Aye.
1016 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes aye.
1017 Ms. Lee?
1018 [No response.]
1019 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
1020 *Mr. Langworthy. Aye.
1021 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.
1022 Mr. Kean?
1023 [No response.]
1024 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli?

1025 *Mr. Rulli. Aye.
1026 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.
1027 Mr. Evans?
1028 *Mr. Evans. Aye.
1029 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes aye.
1030 Mr. Goldman?
1031 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.
1032 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.
1033 Mr. Pallone?
1034 *Mr. Pallone. No.
1035 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.
1036 Ms. DeGette?
1037 *Ms. DeGette. No.
1038 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.
1039 Ms. Schakowsky?
1040 *Ms. Schakowsky. No.
1041 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.
1042 Ms. Matsui?
1043 *Ms. Matsui. No.
1044 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.
1045 Ms. Castor?
1046 *Ms. Castor. No.
1047 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.
1048 Mr. Tonko?
1049 *Mr. Tonko. No.

1050 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.
1051 Ms. Clarke?
1052 *Ms. Clarke. No.
1053 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.
1054 Mr. Ruiz?
1055 *Mr. Ruiz. No.
1056 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.
1057 Mr. Peters?
1058 *Mr. Peters. No.
1059 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.
1060 Mrs. Dingell?
1061 *Mrs. Dingell. No.
1062 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.
1063 Mr. Veasey?
1064 *Mr. Veasey. No.
1065 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.
1066 Ms. Kelly?
1067 *Ms. Kelly. No.
1068 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.
1069 Ms. Barragan?
1070 *Ms. Barragan. No.
1071 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.
1072 Mr. Soto?
1073 *Mr. Soto. No.
1074 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.

1075 Ms. Schrier?
1076 *Ms. Schrier. No.
1077 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.
1078 Mrs. Trahan?
1079 *Mrs. Trahan. No.
1080 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.
1081 Mrs. Fletcher?
1082 *Mrs. Fletcher. No.
1083 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.
1084 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
1085 [No response.]
1086 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
1087 *Mr. Auchincloss. No.
1088 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes no.
1089 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?
1090 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. No.
1091 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.
1092 Mr. Menendez?
1093 *Mr. Menendez. No.
1094 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes no.
1095 Mr. Mullin?
1096 *Mr. Mullin. No.
1097 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.
1098 Mr. Landsman?
1099 *Mr. Landsman. No.

1100 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes no.
1101 Ms. McClellan?
1102 *Ms. McClellan. No.
1103 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes no.
1104 Chairman Guthrie?
1105 *The Chair. Yes.
1106 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.
1107 *Mr. Palmer. How is Palmer recorded?
1108 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer is not recorded.
1109 *Mr. Palmer. Yes.
1110 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.
1111 *Mr. Latta. Are there any other members --
1112 *Voice. The gentlelady from Florida, the gentlelady
1113 from Florida.
1114 *Mr. Latta. The gentlelady from Florida.
1115 *Mrs. Cammack. Aye.
1116 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Yes.
1117 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak --
1118 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman from Texas --
1119 *The Clerk. -- votes aye.
1120 *Mr. Latta. -- how is he recorded?
1121 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw is not recorded.
1122 *Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes aye.
1123 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.
1124 *Voice. The gentlelady from North Dakota.

1125 *Mr. Latta. Yes, the gentlelady from North Dakota.

1126 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Yes.

1127 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.

1128 *Mrs. Cammack. I don't think you got me.

1129 *Mr. Latta. Are there any other members wishing to be
1130 recorded?

1131 *Mrs. Cammack. How is Mrs. --

1132 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack is not recorded.

1133 *Mrs. Cammack. Aye.

1134 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.

1135 *Mr. Latta. The clerk will take her roll and report.

1136 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta, on that vote there were 28 ayes
1137 and 23 noes.

1138 *Mr. Latta. The ayes have it, and the bill is adopted.

1139 The chair calls up H.R. 1047, and asks the clerk to
1140 report.

1141 *The Clerk. H.R. 1047, a bill to require the Federal
1142 Energy Regulatory --

1143 *Mr. Latta. Without objection, the first reading of the
1144 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for
1145 amendment at any point.

1146 So ordered.

1147

1148

1149

1150 [The bill follows:]

1151

1152 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

1153

1154 *Mr. Latta. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the
1155 bill?

1156 The gentleman from Ohio's 12th district is recognized
1157 for what purpose?

1158 *Mr. Balderson. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last
1159 word and speak in support --

1160 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized for five
1161 minutes to speak on the bill.

1162 *Mr. Balderson. Thank you, my fellow colleague from
1163 Ohio, Mr. Chairman.

1164 This bill is critical to ensure our nation has the
1165 baseload, dispatchable power needed to meet historic demand
1166 growth and guarantee the lights turn on for our constituents
1167 when they hit the switch.

1168 PJM, the largest grid operator in the nation, recently
1169 announced they expect to lose about 40 gigawatts of
1170 generation by 2030. That is 21 percent of total capacity.
1171 According to PJM, new power resources are not coming online
1172 quickly enough to offset the risk posed by retiring
1173 resources. In fact, between 2022 and 2023 PJM saw over
1174 11,000 megawatts of generation deactivated, and only 4,000
1175 megawatts of new generation added to the grid. It doesn't
1176 take an electricity expert to know it is a major problem when
1177 retiring power plants are outpacing new generation, all while
1178 our nation has seen historic demand growth from

1179 electrification, data centers, and AI.

1180 Just this week PJM issued the following warning -- and I
1181 quote -- "At the current pace, we are projecting a shortfall
1182 of energy.'" And just yesterday AEP Ohio issued an emergency
1183 request for consumers to limit energy usage to prevent
1184 rolling blackouts. We must do more to ensure that we can
1185 fuel the AI revolution and ensure our constituents have
1186 access to reliable and affordable energy, starting with
1187 fixing the broken interconnection process.

1188 Interconnection queues are lists maintained by electric
1189 transmission system operators such as independent system
1190 operators, regional transmission organizations, or
1191 transmission providers that track all pending requests for
1192 new power generation facilities to connect to the electric
1193 grid. Right now our nation's interconnection queues are
1194 buckling under their own weight. The growing backlog of
1195 projects is adding years to an already time-consuming
1196 process, and preventing shovel-ready projects from getting
1197 connected.

1198 In fact, according to the Lawrence Berkeley National
1199 Lab, almost 26,000 gigawatts of generation projects were
1200 sitting in the interconnection queues across the country.
1201 That is more than double the amount of the existing
1202 generation currently on the grid. As a result of that
1203 backlog, the median wait time for projects to move through

1204 the interconnection queue has increased to five years. Given
1205 the demand growth and power plant retirements we are seeing
1206 in my home state of Ohio and across the country, we can't
1207 afford to wait five or more years, and we can't afford to
1208 keep delaying critical projects from being built and
1209 connected to the grid.

1210 The Grid Power Act would give grid operators the
1211 authority to identify and expedite the consideration of
1212 essential projects that will protect our grid's reliability
1213 and provide the power needed to meet America's growing
1214 demand. This bill requires FERC to develop rules that
1215 authorize grid operators to fast-track critical generation
1216 that ensures grid reliability and meet growing power demands
1217 by allowing them to bypass the years-long wait in the
1218 interconnection queue.

1219 The Grid Power Act promotes transparency by requiring
1220 the grid operators to provide a process for public comment
1221 and stakeholder engagement before submitting proposals to
1222 FERC.

1223 Additionally, the bill requires operators to provide
1224 regular reporting on the state of the grid reliability,
1225 including actions taken under the bill to FERC.

1226 Lastly, the bill requires FERC to review and, if
1227 necessary, update regulations issued under the bill to ensure
1228 they remain effective and relevant to evolving challenges to

1229 grid reliability and resiliency.

1230 And I would like to address a concern my friends on the
1231 other side of the aisle have raised, that this bill somehow
1232 favors fossil fuels at the expense of renewable and
1233 intermittent energy. I would just like to refer to the text
1234 of the bill. Not once does the bill mention fossil fuels or
1235 renewable energy. The bill is fuel neutral. There is no
1236 mention of natural gas, solar, coal, wind, hydropower, or
1237 nuclear energy. It defines dispatchable power as -- and I
1238 quote -- "an electric generation resource capable of
1239 providing known and forecastable electric supply in time
1240 intervals necessary to ensure grid reliability.''

1241 We have heard from countless witnesses before this
1242 committee who have said we need more reliable, dispatchable
1243 power connecting to the grid. And it seems that the other
1244 side now concedes what we have always known, that certain
1245 weather-dependent resources alone do not meet this
1246 definition, and they are unable to provide the dependable
1247 power our grid demands to keep the lights on for American
1248 families.

1249 I ask that all of my colleagues support this common-
1250 sense bill that gives our grid operators the tools they need
1251 to get new generation online and connected to the grid at a
1252 time of historic demand growth.

1253 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I yield back.

1254 *Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentleman yields back. Is
1255 there any further discussion on the bill?

1256 The gentleman from California wishes to be recognized.
1257 For what purpose?

1258 *Mr. Mullin. I move to strike the last word, Mr.
1259 Chairman.

1260 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized to strike the
1261 last word for five minutes.

1262 *Mr. Mullin. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1263 I want to begin by acknowledging that I agree with the
1264 motivation behind H.R. 1047. Our interconnection process is
1265 indeed not working. Energy projects are waiting years to get
1266 connected to the grid, and that is bad for our economy, bad
1267 for reliability, and bad for consumers. But while the
1268 motivation is right, the approach in this bill falls short.

1269 H.R. 1047 will pick winners and losers, allowing fossil
1270 fuel projects to cut the line. That is a mistake,
1271 particularly when natural gas projects are facing supply
1272 chain delays and higher input costs. We shouldn't be
1273 deprioritizing ready-to-go projects just because they are
1274 clean energy.

1275 And let's be honest about what is missing from this
1276 markup: Ranking Member Castor's bill. The Expediting
1277 Generator Interconnection Procedures Act, would speed up
1278 interconnection through reforms like requiring realistic

1279 modeling and sharing of best practices. Leaving the ranking
1280 member's bill out was a missed opportunity.

1281 We should instead be looking for ways to speed up
1282 interconnection overall, not merely picking favorites. For
1283 example, a recent letter from FERC Commissioner Rosner noted
1284 that AI and automation can reduce the time it takes to
1285 conduct interconnection studies. A study that took over 2
1286 years to complete was replicated in just 10 days by AI. As a
1287 committee we should be examining ways to support the
1288 deployment of these technologies to reduce backlogs.

1289 I hope the committee will provide additional
1290 opportunities to work on this on a bipartisan basis in the
1291 future, and I yield back.

1292 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman yields back. Is there
1293 further discussion on the bill?

1294 Are there any -- seeing none, are there any -- I am
1295 sorry, does the gentlelady wish to speak on the bill?

1296 *Ms. Castor. I have an amendment.

1297 *Mr. Latta. Oh, the gentlelady has -- the gentlelady
1298 from Florida, the ranking member of the Energy Subcommittee,
1299 is recognized to speak on her amendment. Does she have the
1300 amendment at the desk?

1301 *Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My amendment is
1302 FC_HR1047_34.

1303 *Mr. Latta. The clerk will report the amendment.

1304 *The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 1047, offered by Ms.
1305 Castor. Page five, line --

1306 *Mr. Latta. Without objection, the reading of the
1307 amendment is dispensed with.

1308 [The amendment of Ms. Castor follows:]

1309

1310 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

1311

1312 *Mr. Latta. And the gentlelady is recognized for five
1313 minutes in support of her amendment.

1314 *Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman and
1315 colleagues, this is an important amendment for transparency,
1316 for boosting our energy supply, and for consumer savings. It
1317 would apply to any rulemakings that prioritize certain
1318 projects in the interconnection queue, and mandate that those
1319 projects actually come online within four years.

1320 Republicans have repeatedly claimed that new gas-fired
1321 power plants are needed to urgency -- urgently meet
1322 reliability concerns, but they undermine their own argument
1323 by refusing to apply the same consideration to cleaner,
1324 cheaper power that is waiting right now and has been to come
1325 on to the grid: renewables, storage, distributed energy
1326 resources, demand response, grid-enhancing technologies, and
1327 other solutions. Because if they are genuinely concerned
1328 about meeting demand growth in the next four years, they
1329 really should have no problem with my common-sense amendment.

1330 Members, this is a real problem today. In February FERC
1331 allowed PJM -- that is the regional transmission operator for
1332 13 states, including D.C. -- to prioritize adding resources
1333 like gas power plants to the grid while keeping renewable
1334 energy projects in its long interconnection queue.
1335 Commissioners made it clear that this is only a one-time
1336 emergency measure, not a substitute for a well-functioning

1337 interconnection process. However, in that ruling, FERC
1338 Commissioners Phillips and Rosner warned that it may not
1339 bring new power supplies online in time to meet the
1340 shortfalls. And FERC Commissioner Chang dissented because
1341 those gas projects expedited were unlikely to come online by
1342 2030.

1343 Clearly, FERC already has the authority to expedite
1344 projects in the interconnection queue so long as it justifies
1345 its approval with evidence that such an approach is both just
1346 and reasonable and not unduly discriminatory. If we are
1347 going to expand that authority, as this bill does, we should
1348 also ensure that the projects actually come online. If we
1349 don't, we are just letting FERC approve discriminatory and
1350 costly practices. After all, there is no point in expediting
1351 projects if they are not actually going to come online faster
1352 than other projects.

1353 And this is not an imaginary concern. If the reality is
1354 that new gas projects would be expedited under this bill,
1355 then we need to make sure that those projects actually
1356 provide power to the grid quickly. Otherwise, they will just
1357 make it more expensive and more time-consuming for all of the
1358 other projects that actually could have helped.

1359 And I am really concerned that the current shortage of
1360 gas turbines, where if you haven't ordered your gas turbine
1361 already, you are not getting it this decade. That is the

1362 testimony we have heard over and over again in the Energy
1363 Subcommittee, and that is what all of the experts are
1364 advising policymakers. It means that there would be real
1365 material risk that expedited projects wouldn't provide any
1366 power to the grid at all. And ultimately, who will bear the
1367 cost of that? Consumer. Consumers because you are, in
1368 essence, blocking the cleaner, cheaper sources, the energy
1369 efficiency, the grid enhancing technologies, the other
1370 solutions that would help to keep prices low.

1371 One of FERC's core responsibilities is to keep prices
1372 affordable, a mission that is made possible by strong
1373 competition among energy generators. This resource-neutral
1374 access makes it possible for any project with real investment
1375 and real progress towards construction to move forward. But
1376 this bill hamstringing that neutrality, which will stifle
1377 American innovation and entrepreneurship.

1378 This bill -- and frankly, this entire markup -- offers a
1379 twisted logic, a twisted conception of reliability, because
1380 reliability isn't a description of an individual generator,
1381 but rather it is an attribute that applies to the entire
1382 electric system. It is not a given that additional
1383 dispatchable resources aid reliability. You have to rely on
1384 a mix of generation of different fuels and wires to make sure
1385 everyone can get the power they need all the time. And it is
1386 crazy that I have to say that this week of all weeks, when

1387 grid operators up and down the East coast are relying on
1388 every single megawatt of generation and wire they can get to
1389 to provide the power that people need to stay cool and safe.

1390 Expediting -- let me just, since I am out of time, say
1391 that instead the majority now is showing it really doesn't
1392 care about all of the above. They just care about picking
1393 winners and losers. It doesn't have to be this way. With
1394 increasing demand for power, we will need every megawatt we
1395 can get. Republicans just don't like the megawatts that
1396 utilities --

1397 *Mr. Latta. The gentlelady's time has expired --

1398 *Ms. Castor. -- and power developers are choosing in a
1399 free market.

1400 So I urge my colleagues to approve this --

1401 *Mr. Latta. Thank you.

1402 *Ms. Castor. -- and I yield back my time.

1403 *Mr. Latta. The gentlelady's time has expired, and the
1404 chair now recognizes the gentleman from Ohio's 12th district.
1405 For what purpose?

1406 *Mr. Balderson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, to speak on
1407 the amendment.

1408 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized for five
1409 minutes to speak on the amendment.

1410 *Mr. Balderson. I strongly oppose this amendment, as it
1411 is unnecessary to existing FERC requirements, and it is a

1412 distraction to the underlying policy at hand.

1413 This amendment would require the Commission deny any
1414 proposal that will not be completed within four years of
1415 being assigned a higher position in the queue. This
1416 amendment represents -- misrepresents the intent of the
1417 legislation.

1418 In order 2023 FERC had already shifted the
1419 interconnection queue process from a first-come, first-served
1420 basis to a first-ready, first-served model to ensure that
1421 shovel-ready projects get consideration. The Grid Power Act
1422 provides an additional tool for grid operators to bring
1423 dispatchable energy resources to the queue if there is a
1424 demonstrated need for reliability and stability of the bulk
1425 power system. Projects that would be considered under this
1426 tool would already receive thorough reviews from the grid
1427 operator that would ensure its viability.

1428 We know that current backlogs and the interconnection
1429 queue are bogged down because of excessive subsidies and
1430 regulations that favor intermittent resources at the expense
1431 of baseload projects. Time and time again, this committee
1432 has heard from grid operators, engineers, and experts in the
1433 energy industry regarding the need for reliable and
1434 dispatchable energy to maintain stability of the bulk power
1435 system. That is the exact problem this legislation seeks to
1436 address.

1437 I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment and I
1438 yield back, Mr. Chairman.

1439 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman yields back the balance of
1440 his time. Are there others wishing to speak on the
1441 amendment?

1442 Hearing none, the vote comes on the amendment, and a
1443 roll call has been requested. The clerk will take the roll,
1444 please.

1445 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

1446 *Mr. Latta. No.

1447 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.

1448 Mr. Griffith?

1449 *Mr. Griffith. No.

1450 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.

1451 Mr. Bilirakis?

1452 *Mr. Bilirakis. No.

1453 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes no.

1454 Mr. Hudson?

1455 [No response.]

1456 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter?

1457 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. No.

1458 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.

1459 Mr. Palmer?

1460 [No response.]

1461 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?

1462 *Mr. Dunn. No.
1463 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.
1464 Mr. Crenshaw?
1465 [No response.]
1466 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce?
1467 [No response.]
1468 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber?
1469 *Mr. Weber. No.
1470 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes no.
1471 Mr. Allen?
1472 *Mr. Allen. No.
1473 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes no.
1474 Mr. Balderson?
1475 *Mr. Balderson. No.
1476 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes no.
1477 Mr. Fulcher?
1478 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is no.
1479 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes no.
1480 Mr. Pfluger?
1481 [No response.]
1482 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger?
1483 *Mrs. Harshbarger. No.
1484 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.
1485 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
1486 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. No.

1487 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes no.
1488 Mrs. Cammack?
1489 *Mrs. Cammack. No.
1490 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes no.
1491 Mr. Oubernolte?
1492 *Mr. Oubernolte. No.
1493 *The Clerk. Mr. Oubernolte votes no.
1494 Mr. James?
1495 [No response.]
1496 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz?
1497 *Mr. Bentz. No.
1498 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes no.
1499 Mrs. Houchin?
1500 *Mrs. Houchin. No.
1501 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes no.
1502 Mr. Fry?
1503 *Mr. Fry. No.
1504 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes no.
1505 Ms. Lee?
1506 [No response.]
1507 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
1508 [No response.]
1509 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean?
1510 [No response.]
1511 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli?

1512 *Mr. Rulli. No.
1513 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes no.
1514 Mr. Evans?
1515 [No response.]
1516 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman?
1517 *Mr. Goldman. No.
1518 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes no.
1519 Mrs. Fedorchak?
1520 *Mrs. Fedorchak. No.
1521 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.
1522 Mr. Pallone?
1523 *Mr. Pallone. Aye.
1524 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.
1525 Ms. DeGette?
1526 *Ms. DeGette. Aye.
1527 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.
1528 Ms. Schakowsky?
1529 *Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.
1530 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.
1531 Ms. Matsui?
1532 *Ms. Matsui. Aye.
1533 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.
1534 Ms. Castor?
1535 *Ms. Castor. Aye.
1536 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.

1537 Mr. Tonko?

1538 *Mr. Tonko. Aye.

1539 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.

1540 Ms. Clarke?

1541 *Ms. Clarke. Aye.

1542 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.

1543 Mr. Ruiz?

1544 *Mr. Ruiz. Aye.

1545 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.

1546 Mr. Peters?

1547 *Mr. Peters. Aye.

1548 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.

1549 Mrs. Dingell?

1550 [No response.]

1551 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey?

1552 [No response.]

1553 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly?

1554 *Ms. Kelly. Aye.

1555 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.

1556 Ms. Barragan?

1557 *Ms. Barragan. Aye.

1558 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.

1559 Mr. Soto?

1560 *Mr. Soto. Aye.

1561 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.

1562 Ms. Schrier?
1563 *Ms. Schrier. Aye.
1564 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.
1565 Mrs. Trahan?
1566 *Mrs. Trahan. Aye.
1567 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.
1568 Mrs. Fletcher?
1569 [No response.]
1570 *The Clerk. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
1571 [No response.]
1572 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
1573 *Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.
1574 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.
1575 Mr. Carter?
1576 [No response.]
1577 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez?
1578 *Mr. Menendez. Aye.
1579 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.
1580 Mr. Mullin?
1581 *Mr. Mullin. Aye.
1582 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.
1583 Mr. Landsman?
1584 *Mr. Landsman. Aye.
1585 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.
1586 Ms. McClellan?

1587 *Ms. McClellan. Aye.
1588 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.
1589 Chairman Guthrie?
1590 *The Chair. No.
1591 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes no.
1592 *Mr. Latta. Are there other members wishing to record
1593 their vote?
1594 How is the gentleman from Alabama recorded?
1595 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer is not recorded.
1596 *Mr. Latta. How is the gentleman from New York --
1597 *Mr. Palmer. No.
1598 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer vote no.
1599 *Mr. Latta. And how is the gentleman from New York
1600 recorded?
1601 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy is not recorded.
1602 *Mr. Langworthy. No.
1603 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman from --
1604 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes no.
1605 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman from North Carolina?
1606 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson is not recorded.
1607 *Mr. Hudson. Hudson votes no.
1608 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman from --
1609 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.
1610 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman from Texas, how is he
1611 recorded?

1612 *Mr. Crenshaw. No.

1613 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.

1614 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman from Pennsylvania?

1615 *Mr. Joyce. Joyce votes no.

1616 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.

1617 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman from Michigan?

1618 *Mr. James. James votes no.

1619 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes no.

1620 *Mr. Veasey. Mr. Chairman, how is the gentleman from

1621 Texas --

1622 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman from Texas?

1623 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey is not recorded.

1624 *Mr. Veasey. Mr. Chairman, Veasey should be recorded

1625 aye.

1626 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.

1627 *Mr. Latta. The gentlelady from Michigan.

1628 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell is not recorded.

1629 *Mrs. Dingell. Votes aye.

1630 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.

1631 *Mr. Latta. The gentlelady from Texas?

1632 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher is not recorded.

1633 *Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes aye.

1634 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.

1635 *Mr. Latta. Are there any other members wishing to

1636 record their vote?

1637 The gentleman from Louisiana.

1638 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter is not recorded.

1639 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.

1640 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.

1641 *Mr. Latta. The clerk will take the roll and report,

1642 please.

1643 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta, on that vote there were 23 ayes

1644 and 26 noes.

1645 *Mr. Latta. Thank you very much. The amendment is not

1646 agreed to.

1647 Are there further amendments on the bill?

1648 The question now is on approving H.R. 1047, and a roll

1649 call has been requested. The clerk will take the roll.

1650 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

1651 *Mr. Latta. Aye.

1652 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

1653 Mr. Griffith?

1654 *Mr. Griffith. Aye.

1655 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

1656 Mr. Bilirakis?

1657 *Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.

1658 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

1659 Mr. Hudson?

1660 *Mr. Hudson. Aye.

1661 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

1662 Mr. Carter?
1663 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.
1664 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.
1665 Mr. Palmer?
1666 *Mr. Palmer. Aye.
1667 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.
1668 Mr. Dunn?
1669 *Mr. Dunn. Aye.
1670 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.
1671 Mr. Crenshaw?
1672 *Mr. Crenshaw. Aye.
1673 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.
1674 Mr. Joyce?
1675 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.
1676 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.
1677 Mr. Weber?
1678 *Mr. Weber. Yes.
1679 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.
1680 Mr. Allen?
1681 *Mr. Allen. Aye.
1682 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.
1683 Mr. Balderson?
1684 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.
1685 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.
1686 Mr. Fulcher?

1687 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is aye.
1688 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.
1689 Mr. Pfluger?
1690 *Mr. Pfluger. Aye.
1691 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes aye.
1692 Mrs. Harshbarger?
1693 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.
1694 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.
1695 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
1696 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Yes.
1697 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.
1698 Mrs. Cammack?
1699 *Mrs. Cammack. Aye.
1700 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.
1701 Mr. Obernolte?
1702 *Mr. Obernolte. Aye.
1703 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes aye.
1704 Mr. James?
1705 *Mr. James. Aye.
1706 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.
1707 Mr. Bentz?
1708 *Mr. Bentz. Aye.
1709 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.
1710 Mrs. Houchin?
1711 [No response.]

1712 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin?
1713 *Mrs. Houchin. Aye.
1714 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.
1715 Mr. Fry?
1716 *Mr. Fry. Aye.
1717 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes aye.
1718 Ms. Lee?
1719 [No response.]
1720 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
1721 *Mr. Langworthy. Aye.
1722 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.
1723 Mr. Kean?
1724 [No response.]
1725 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli?
1726 *Mr. Rulli. Aye.
1727 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.
1728 Mr. Evans?
1729 *Mr. Evans. Aye.
1730 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes aye.
1731 Mr. Goldman?
1732 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.
1733 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.
1734 Mrs. Fedorchak?
1735 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.
1736 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.

1737 Mr. Pallone?
1738 *Mr. Pallone. No.
1739 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.
1740 Ms. DeGette?
1741 *Ms. DeGette. No.
1742 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.
1743 Ms. Schakowsky?
1744 [No response.]
1745 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui?
1746 *Ms. Matsui. No.
1747 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.
1748 Ms. Castor?
1749 *Ms. Castor. No.
1750 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.
1751 Mr. Tonko?
1752 *Mr. Tonko. No.
1753 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.
1754 Ms. Clarke?
1755 *Ms. Clarke. No.
1756 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.
1757 Mr. Ruiz?
1758 *Mr. Ruiz. No.
1759 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.
1760 Mr. Peters?
1761 *Mr. Peters. No.

1762 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.
1763 Mrs. Dingell?
1764 *Mrs. Dingell. No.
1765 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.
1766 Mr. Veasey?
1767 [No response.]
1768 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly?
1769 *Ms. Kelly. No.
1770 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.
1771 Ms. Barragan?
1772 *Ms. Barragan. No.
1773 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.
1774 Mr. Soto?
1775 *Mr. Soto. No.
1776 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.
1777 Ms. Schrier?
1778 *Ms. Schrier. No.
1779 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.
1780 Mrs. Trahan?
1781 [No response.]
1782 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher?
1783 *Mrs. Fletcher. No.
1784 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.
1785 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
1786 [No response.]

1787 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
1788 *Mr. Auchincloss. No.
1789 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes no.
1790 Mr. Carter?
1791 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. No.
1792 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.
1793 Mr. Menendez?
1794 *Mr. Menendez. No.
1795 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes no.
1796 Mr. Mullin?
1797 *Mr. Mullin. No.
1798 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.
1799 Mr. Landsman?
1800 [No response.]
1801 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan?
1802 *Ms. McClellan. No.
1803 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes no.
1804 Chairman Guthrie?
1805 *The Chair. Aye.
1806 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.
1807 *Mr. Latta. Are there any other members wishing to be
1808 recorded?
1809 How is the gentlelady from Massachusetts recorded?
1810 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan is not recorded.
1811 *Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.

1812 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.
1813 *Mr. Latta. The gentlelady from Illinois?
1814 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky is not recorded.
1815 *Ms. Schakowsky. No.
1816 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.
1817 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman from Texas?
1818 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey is not recorded.
1819 *Mr. Veasey. Mr. Veasey votes no.
1820 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.
1821 *Mr. Latta. Any other members?
1822 Oh, I am sorry. The gentleman from Ohio.
1823 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman is not recorded.
1824 *Mr. Landsman. No.
1825 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes no.
1826 *Mr. Latta. Okay, the clerk will take the roll, please,
1827 and report.
1828 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta, on that vote there were 28 ayes
1829 and 23 noes.
1830 *Mr. Latta. The ayes have it and the bill is adopted.
1831 The chair calls up 3632, and asks the clerk to report.
1832 *The Clerk. H.R. 3632, a bill to amend the Federal
1833 Power Act to adjust the requirements --
1834 *Mr. Latta. Without objection, the first reading of the
1835 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for
1836 amendment at any point.

1837 So ordered.

1838 [The bill follows:]

1839

1840 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

1841

1842 *Mr. Latta. And for what purpose does the gentleman
1843 from Virginia seek recognition?

1844 *Mr. Griffith. Speaking on the measure.

1845 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized to speak for
1846 five minutes on the bill.

1847 *Mr. Griffith. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am proud to
1848 have introduced H.R. 3632, the Power Plant Reliability Act of
1849 2025, and I am happy to see this committee mark it up today.

1850 This bill would update section 207 of the Federal Power
1851 Act which deals with ensuring that utilities provide adequate
1852 service.

1853 As far as we can find in the Federal Energy Regulatory
1854 Commission and its forerunner's records, only a handful of
1855 complaints citing this section have been filed, and only one
1856 order issued in 2006, which firmly cited to section 207.
1857 That is why we need to update this section of the act to
1858 allow affected parties to contest the retirement of
1859 generation resources.

1860 Over the next 10 years, 115 gigawatts of dispatchable
1861 generation has been announced to be retired across the United
1862 States, while demand is estimated to increase upwards of 151
1863 gigawatts. These numbers do not match up.

1864 I would note that some have even suggested that, with
1865 AI, we may need as much as an additional terawatt of power.

1866 My bill would enhance existing authorities under the

1867 Federal Power Act to ensure premature retirements are not
1868 necessarily jeopardizing the reliability of our electric
1869 grid. Under my bill, FERC would be able to issue orders for
1870 up to five years in length and allocate costs for potential
1871 new transmission costs that may alleviate a plant going
1872 offline. These orders can no longer -- can be no longer than
1873 five years, but can be tailored by FERC to be shorter. The
1874 availability of these orders will hopefully assist states and
1875 regional transmission organizations in planning projects so
1876 that whenever a plant is to retire, there is another source
1877 or multiple sources that will produce the same amount of
1878 power.

1879 As part of these section 207 orders issued pursuant to
1880 this legislation, FERC will waive excessive environmental
1881 regulations, mirroring language in section 2028 of the Federal
1882 Power Act to provide needed flexibility for plant owners to
1883 continue operating the facility in a cost-effective manner.

1884 In addition, this bill would require plants to provide a
1885 five-year advance notice of their plans to retire. This
1886 helps states and regional transmission organizations improve
1887 resources adequacy and transmission planning. By requiring
1888 this notice, we can ensure that states and grid operators can
1889 responsibly manage their respective systems. This provision
1890 is more to ensure we have a transparent and longer-term watch
1891 list showing how much power is likely going off the grid.

1892 While the list is public, no affected party is ever
1893 required to file a complaint, and the specific power plant
1894 can only announce its retirement, not file a complaint to
1895 keep their own facility open. Any affected party, not just
1896 the initial complainant, can request an additional five-year
1897 extension of the adequate service order.

1898 Importantly, this bill allows for flexibility of the
1899 five-year advance notice of retirements in the event of an
1900 emergency, disaster, or other similar event that leaves the
1901 plant inoperable.

1902 The Energy Subcommittee has held several hearings in the
1903 119th and the 118th Congress to understand our ongoing
1904 reliability crisis. We continue to hear time and again from
1905 grid operators, engineers, and utilities of all kinds about
1906 the impact that premature retirements can have on the grid.
1907 Unfortunately, many times it is the policy decisions of the
1908 government, both state and Federal, that are forcing the
1909 closure of baseload power plant retirements and seeking to
1910 replace generation with less reliable sources.

1911 While renewable energy sources have a role to play,
1912 baseload and dispatchable energy from natural gas, coal,
1913 nuclear, and hydropower have tangible benefits based on their
1914 constant power production. Technologies like wind and solar
1915 have created an unstable grid in some portions of the
1916 country. With this bill we will provide FERC the opportunity

1917 to referee plant shutdowns and look at the more regional, as
1918 opposed to local, impacts.

1919 Mr. Chairman, I have several letters of support, and I
1920 ask unanimous consent of these letters to be entered into the
1921 record, and the committee already has them in a digital
1922 format.

1923 *Mr. Latta. Without objection, so ordered.

1924 [The information follows:]

1925

1926 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

1927

1928 *Mr. Griffith. Thank you so much, and it is my
1929 understanding that, as well, the National Mining Association
1930 has also mentioned their support for my bill in a letter that
1931 was already submitted for the record.

1932 I ask my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill, and I
1933 yield back the balance of my time.

1934 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman yields back. Is there
1935 discussion on the bill?

1936 The gentleman from Georgia recognized. For what
1937 purpose?

1938 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. I move to strike the last word.

1939 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized to strike the
1940 last word for five minutes.

1941 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I am proud to
1942 cosponsor H.R. 3632, the Power Plant Reliability Act of 2025,
1943 and I thank my good friend, Representative Griffith, for
1944 introducing this bill.

1945 H.R. 3632 will help keep baseload power plants running
1946 for up to five years, while allowing FERC the time to address
1947 state concerns about the impacts of shutting down certain
1948 power plants. The bill also requires power plant operators
1949 to notify Federal authorities if they plan to close a plant.
1950 This bill will allow us to plan for the future when thinking
1951 about our energy resources. It is an essential tool for
1952 maintaining a reliable and efficient grid that works for all

1953 Americans.

1954 Thank you to Congressman Griffith for introducing this
1955 critical piece of legislation, and I urge my colleagues to
1956 vote for this bill.

1957 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I yield back.

1958 *Mr. Latta. Thank you very much. The gentleman yields
1959 back. Is there any further discussion on the bill?

1960 Seeing none, are there any bipartisan amendments?

1961 Are there any amendments?

1962 The gentleman from California's 50th district is
1963 recognized. For what purpose?

1964 *Mr. Peters. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment to desk
1965 labeled FC_HR3632_23.

1966 *Mr. Latta. The clerk will report the amendment.

1967 *The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 3632, offered by Mr.
1968 Peters. Page three, line eight --

1969 *Mr. Latta. Without objection, the reading of the
1970 amendment is dispensed with.

1971 [The amendment of Mr. Peters follows:]

1972

1973 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

1974

1975 *Mr. Latta. And the gentleman is recognized for five
1976 minutes in support of the amendment.

1977 *Mr. Peters. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1978 Every single witness before this committee has been
1979 clear that we need more of everything, whether it be
1980 transmission, pipeline, solar, wind, or natural gas. We need
1981 to build faster and more affordably. That means reforming
1982 our siting and permitting process.

1983 But instead of doing bipartisan permitting reform, which
1984 I do hope we will get to, or developing a long-term energy
1985 strategy for the whole country, we are passing this -- in
1986 this committee, short-sighted bills that will increase costs
1987 for ratepayers and steamroll the rights of states to set
1988 their own energy policy, while hurting reliability and costs
1989 in the long run.

1990 The Power Plant Reliability Act would give the Federal
1991 Energy Regulatory Commission the power to force expensive,
1992 old coal plants to stay open far beyond their long-planned
1993 retirement date, overruling decisions of all local, state,
1994 and Federal officials. Secretary Wright recently used a
1995 similar authority under existing law to unilaterally keep a
1996 Michigan coal plant from the 1960s operating way past its
1997 retirement date. This is unfortunate for Michigan ratepayers
1998 who are now on the hook to pay the bill.

1999 Make no mistake, these plants are closing because the

2000 market has dictated that they should close. Michigan's
2001 attorney general told FERC that the planned retirement of
2002 that plant would save ratepayers \$150 million, and would
2003 actually result in more new generation being put on the
2004 system because of planned new investments. Now all of those
2005 savings and new investments are in jeopardy.

2006 My colleagues on the other side blame our reliability
2007 challenges on the retirement of old, expensive, and outdated
2008 coal generation rather than our inability to build the new
2009 infrastructure we need when and where we need it, which is
2010 the real problem. In fact, this bill could make that problem
2011 worse, as keeping these plants online past the date anyone
2012 wants them could completely chill investment in the new
2013 generation we need.

2014 Unfortunately, this comes on the heels of the Big,
2015 Beautiful Bill, which is not so beautiful in terms of energy
2016 supply. As Ms. Castor pointed out, this will decrease -- the
2017 Big, Beautiful Bill will decrease electricity capacity
2018 additions by 302 gigawatts by 2035, when we need 128
2019 gigawatts in the next 4 years. This is really sending us in
2020 the wrong direction.

2021 If there are any reliability issues caused by the
2022 retirement of these plants, we should address that by
2023 building cheaper, more efficient generation, and by building
2024 a better grid to transfer power from where it is abundant to

2025 where it is needed.

2026 This legislation should not take effect until we know
2027 that it would not lead to less generation on the grid. The
2028 Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the relevant
2029 regional reliability entity, should certify when making these
2030 decisions that the extension of a due-to-be-retired plant
2031 will not result in less generation being put on the grid, and
2032 my amendment would do just that.

2033 It is not fair to ask our constituents to pay for old
2034 coal plants to stay online when the market, state regulators,
2035 engineers, and investors have dictated that we don't need it
2036 to. Why should we use ratepayer dollars to kick the can down
2037 the road, versus investing in new generation and new grid
2038 build-out driven by new American jobs and new American
2039 manufacturing?

2040 We can all agree that more energy is good and less
2041 energy is bad. My amendment simply says that if you can't
2042 extend the retirement date of these plants -- that you cannot
2043 extend the retirement date of these plants if doing so
2044 results in less energy on the grid. I think that is
2045 something we should all support.

2046 We should be having a hearing on bipartisan bills that
2047 improve planning and help us build more transmission and
2048 generation, and expand the tools in our tool belt to meet
2049 this challenge. We are not doing that today, unfortunately.

2050 One bill I do believe is worth our time is my Speed and
2051 Reliability Act with Representative Garbarino. That bill is
2052 bipartisan, costs no money, creates no new programs. It
2053 streamlines, the siting and permitting process for national
2054 interest transmission lines, which everyone agrees we need,
2055 by five years. I would love to get a hearing on that bill.
2056 I think that would be really constructive.

2057 But today, here, I urge support of my amendment and I
2058 yield back.

2059 *Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentleman yields back. And
2060 for what purpose does the bill's sponsor, the gentleman from
2061 Virginia's 9th district, seek recognition?

2062 *Mr. Griffith. Mr. Chairman, I wish to speak on the
2063 amendment.

2064 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized for five
2065 minutes to speak on the amendment.

2066 *Mr. Griffith. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

2067 The purpose of the legislation is to provide solutions
2068 to reliability while more long-term solutions are developed.
2069 I appreciate my colleagues' concern, but I think that it is
2070 ill-founded. And the reason is that all the projections are
2071 -- particularly with AI and more and more data centers being
2072 built -- we are going to need more and more power.

2073 His concerns that he stated were that we want to make
2074 sure that we are not reducing overall input by giving an

2075 order that would allow up to -- not always going to be that,
2076 but it gives FERC the power to keep the power plant open for
2077 up to five years. But that is not just something that is
2078 made in a vacuum. There has to be a complaint, and we have
2079 to move forward with that.

2080 Further, with the demand being so great for additional
2081 resources, it is highly unlikely that anybody would stop
2082 moving forward with a power plant they were planning on
2083 having or looking at doing that is going to be built within
2084 the next five years simply because a temporary order was
2085 placed that said this plant may remain open.

2086 And remember, remember that the bill says that somebody
2087 has to complain, and that means some other utility or state
2088 or regulator like PJM has to come into FERC and say under
2089 207, "We need to keep this open, or else we are going to have
2090 a grid reliability problem," and the maximum is five years.

2091 So I think that the amendment -- while I know it is
2092 well-intended, I think the concerns are ill-founded, and I
2093 would urge my colleagues to vote no.

2094 And I am happy to give you a history on the one time it
2095 was done if the committee so desires.

2096 *Mr. Latta. Seeing none, the gentleman yields back. Is
2097 there further discussion?

2098 The gentleman from Florida is recognized. For what
2099 purpose?

2100 *Mr. Soto. To strike the last word.

2101 *Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized on the
2102 amendment.

2103 *Mr. Soto. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman.

2104 *Mr. Latta. For five minutes.

2105 *Mr. Soto. It has been a sweltering two days in
2106 Washington, reaching over 100 degrees and 98 degrees today.
2107 We know the climate is changing.

2108 Extreme heat, hurricanes are getting more intense, sea
2109 levels are rising. And some would say our Republican
2110 colleagues are doing nothing about it. I wish. It is much
2111 worse. They want to keep dirty coal plants online, and maybe
2112 bring more online as well, the dirtiest fuel America could
2113 possibly use. They release more carbon emissions, super-
2114 charging climate change. It generates millions of tons of
2115 toxic coal ash that has to be buried in our communities,
2116 poison our waters, causing cancer.

2117 I have heard from constituents in east Orlando, and
2118 proud to work with the Orlando Utility Commission to retire
2119 the last local coal plant by 2027. They have natural gas,
2120 solar, and plan to expand to purchasing nuclear power from
2121 other plants. Other areas have hydro and wind. This is the
2122 right course for our nation, and we should be working
2123 together on it.

2124 You know, when you look at solar, for instance,

2125 California, Texas, Florida, Arizona, North Carolina have
2126 boosted solar by massive amounts. My own state, third, with
2127 18.6 gigawatts now this year, up 20 percent from last year.
2128 Texas second, with 41.4 gigawatts of solar power, and
2129 California first, 51.9 gigawatts. They each had 10 to 20
2130 percent increases over the last -- just from last year. And
2131 the reason is the Inflation Reduction Act, which incentivizes
2132 these things.

2133 We are even working on green hydrogen, where you use
2134 solar to run through electricity, through water to create
2135 natural gas through hydrogen that then has no emissions other
2136 than water.

2137 The U.S. Department of Energy also has a goal to triple
2138 nuclear power by 2050, including the Advanced Nuclear Power
2139 Act that we put through just a few years ago in this
2140 committee. Georgia, New York, Wyoming, and Texas all have
2141 potential nuclear power to go online over the next few years.

2142 Then wind energy. It has doubled over the last 10 years
2143 to 150 gigawatts nationally, with Texas leading the way,
2144 three times more wind energy than any other state, and Iowa,
2145 60 percent of wind energy makes up their total make-up.

2146 You look at things like the blackout that happened in
2147 Texas. Five times more natural gas went out than wind, so it
2148 is hugely ironic to blame new renewable energies when it was
2149 extreme weather caused by climate change that knocked out

2150 natural gas, not wind.

2151 We have talked to countless utilities executives. They
2152 are already moving in this direction to solar, to wind, to
2153 nuclear, to hydro. They want to keep the Inflation Reduction
2154 Act. Yet the one, big, ugly bill wants to get rid of it.
2155 They know nuclear power, solar, wind, hydro is the future,
2156 that natural gas is a bridge fuel for the foreseeable future
2157 and that the dirty coal agenda takes us backwards.

2158 And so that is why, when you look at Mr. Peters'
2159 amendment, it is talking about shutting down the dirtiest
2160 coal plants, if it is no longer going to be helpful, to make
2161 room for a lot of these new technologies that are already
2162 coming online, despite every effort by the Trump
2163 Administration and this Congress to stop it.

2164 We are going to continue to progress forward, and that
2165 is why I think these types of amendments are absolutely
2166 critical to make sure that we are moving forward in a
2167 direction that makes sense for our nation.

2168 And with that I yield back.

2169 *The Chair. [Presiding.] The gentleman yields back. Is
2170 there further discussion on the amendment?

2171 Seeing no further discussion on the amendment --

2172 *Mr. Pallone. A roll call.

2173 *The Chair. The roll call vote has been requested. The
2174 gentleman requests a roll call vote, and the clerk will call

2175 the roll.

2176 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

2177 *Mr. Latta. No.

2178 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.

2179 Mr. Griffith?

2180 *Mr. Griffith. No.

2181 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.

2182 Mr. Bilirakis?

2183 *Mr. Bilirakis. No.

2184 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes no.

2185 Mr. Hudson?

2186 *Mr. Hudson. No.

2187 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.

2188 Mr. Carter?

2189 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. No.

2190 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.

2191 Mr. Palmer?

2192 [No response.]

2193 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?

2194 *Mr. Dunn. No.

2195 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.

2196 Mr. Crenshaw?

2197 *Mr. Crenshaw. No.

2198 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.

2199 Mr. Joyce?

2200 [No response.]

2201 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber?

2202 *Mr. Weber. No.

2203 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes no.

2204 Mr. Allen?

2205 *Mr. Allen. No.

2206 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes no.

2207 Mr. Balderson?

2208 *Mr. Balderson. No.

2209 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes no.

2210 Mr. Fulcher?

2211 *Mr. Fulcher. No.

2212 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes no.

2213 Mr. Pfluger?

2214 *Mr. Pfluger. No.

2215 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes no.

2216 Mrs. Harshbarger?

2217 *Mrs. Harshbarger. No.

2218 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.

2219 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?

2220 [No response.]

2221 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack?

2222 *Mrs. Cammack. No.

2223 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes no.

2224 Mr. Obernolte?

2225 *Mr. Oubernolte. No.
2226 *The Clerk. Mr. Oubernolte votes no.
2227 Mr. James?
2228 *Mr. James. No.
2229 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes no.
2230 Mr. Bentz?
2231 *Mr. Bentz. No.
2232 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes no.
2233 Mrs. Houchin?
2234 *Mrs. Houchin. No.
2235 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes no.
2236 Mr. Fry?
2237 *Mr. Fry. No.
2238 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes no.
2239 Ms. Lee?
2240 [No response.]
2241 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
2242 *Mr. Langworthy. No.
2243 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes no.
2244 Mr. Kean?
2245 [No response.]
2246 *The Chair. Whatever they votes on Saturday --
2247 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli?
2248 [No response.]
2249 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans?

2250 *Mr. Evans. No.

2251 *The Chair. We have to agree to on --

2252 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes no.

2253 Mr. Goldman?

2254 [No response.]

2255 *The Chair. I have talked to the Speaker.

2256 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak?

2257 *Mrs. Fedorchak. No.

2258 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.

2259 Mr. Pallone?

2260 *Mr. Pallone. Aye.

2261 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.

2262 Ms. DeGette?

2263 *Ms. DeGette. Aye.

2264 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.

2265 Ms. Schakowsky?

2266 *Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.

2267 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.

2268 Ms. Matsui?

2269 *Ms. Matsui. Aye.

2270 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.

2271 Ms. Castor?

2272 *Ms. Castor. Aye.

2273 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.

2274 Mr. Tonko?

2275 *Mr. Tonko. Aye.
2276 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.
2277 Ms. Clarke?
2278 *Ms. Clarke. Aye.
2279 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.
2280 Mr. Ruiz?
2281 *Mr. Ruiz. Aye.
2282 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.
2283 Mr. Peters?
2284 *Mr. Peters. Aye.
2285 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.
2286 Mrs. Dingell?
2287 *Mrs. Dingell. Aye.
2288 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.
2289 Mr. Veasey?
2290 [No response.]
2291 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly?
2292 *Ms. Kelly. Aye.
2293 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.
2294 Ms. Barragan?
2295 *Ms. Barragan. Aye.
2296 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.
2297 Mr. Soto?
2298 *Mr. Soto. Aye.
2299 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.

2300 Ms. Schrier?

2301 *Ms. Schrier. Aye.

2302 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.

2303 Mrs. Trahan?

2304 *Mrs. Trahan. Aye.

2305 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.

2306 Mrs. Fletcher?

2307 *Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.

2308 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.

2309 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?

2310 [No response.]

2311 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?

2312 *Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.

2313 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.

2314 Mr. Carter?

2315 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.

2316 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.

2317 Mr. Menendez?

2318 *Mr. Menendez. Aye.

2319 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.

2320 Mr. Mullin?

2321 *Mr. Mullin. Aye.

2322 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.

2323 Mr. Landsman?

2324 [No response.]

2325 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan?

2326 *Ms. McClellan. Aye.

2327 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.

2328 Chairman Guthrie?

2329 *The Chair. No.

2330 Is anyone seeking --

2331 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes --

2332 *The Chair. The gentleman from Alabama?

2333 *Mr. Palmer. Palmer votes no.

2334 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.

2335 *The Chair. Dr. Joyce?

2336 *Mr. Joyce. Joyce votes no.

2337 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.

2338 *The Chair. Mr. Goldman?

2339 *Mr. Goldman. No.

2340 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes no.

2341 *The Chair. Anyone else seeking recognition?

2342 Mr. Landsman?

2343 *Mr. Landsman. Yes.

2344 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.

2345 *The Chair. Any others seeking recognition?

2346 Seeing none, the clerk will report.

2347 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were

2348 22 ayes and 26 noes.

2349 *The Chair. The amendment is not agreed to. Are there

2350 further amendments?

2351 The gentlelady from Illinois, Ms. Kelly.

2352 *Ms. Kelly. Mr. --

2353 *The Chair. For what purpose do you seek recognition?

2354 *Ms. Kelly. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the

2355 desk labeled FC_HR3632_21.

2356 *The Chair. The clerk will report the amendment.

2357 *The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 3632 offered by Ms.

2358 Kelly.

2359 *The Chair. Without objection, the reading of the

2360 amendment is dispensed with.

2361 [The amendment of Ms. Kelly follows:]

2362

2363 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

2364

2365 *The Chair. And the gentlelady is recognized for five
2366 minutes in support of her amendment.

2367 *Ms. Kelly. Thank you. This bill will provide a
2368 statutory pathway for the Administration to keep all
2369 expensive and polluting coal plants online, and force
2370 American families to pay for Republicans' seemingly obsession
2371 with coal.

2372 I have a lot of problems with the bill, but the
2373 fundamental idea at the center of it just doesn't make any
2374 sense. And we are already seeing this at the Department of
2375 Energy, which last month decided to exceed its statutory
2376 authority and issue two emergency orders mandating that two
2377 coal plants, one in Pennsylvania and one in Michigan, be kept
2378 online, even though literally nobody asked for the plants to
2379 be kept online. Not their owners, not the local utility, not
2380 the reliability regulator, and not the grid operator.
2381 Nobody.

2382 To add insult to injury, one of the coal plants is now
2383 actively at FERC trying to make other people pay for their
2384 plant to stay online. And I want to say that again because
2385 it is so unbelievable: A coal plant in Michigan that nobody
2386 wanted to stay online is asking FERC's permission to charge
2387 customers everywhere from Illinois to Minnesota to Iowa to
2388 Missouri so it can stay online, even though those places get
2389 zero benefit from it. Zero benefit from it. Nobody gets any

2390 benefit from it. The Secretary's emergency order was
2391 premised on a faulty prediction that the Midwest grid was at
2392 high risk, a prediction caused by bad data, as Congresswoman
2393 DeGette pointed out earlier.

2394 This isn't hypothetical for my constituents. The ones
2395 in central Illinois served by Ameren could see their bills go
2396 up to pay for the Michigan plant. If certain parties at PJM,
2397 the grid operator for northern Illinois and the Mid-Atlantic,
2398 get their way, my constituents served by ComEd will have to
2399 pay for the Pennsylvania plant to stay online, an even more
2400 egregious miscarriage of justice.

2401 This is where my amendment comes in. It is simple. It
2402 requires FERC to ensure that any charges for a plant staying
2403 online are just and reasonable, something the bill as written
2404 does not require.

2405 Furthermore, it requires that FERC adhere to what is
2406 called the Cost Causation Principle. Put in layman's terms,
2407 if you break it, you buy it. If people actually need a plant
2408 to stay online under this bill, they should pay for it. If
2409 you don't receive any benefits from a plant staying online
2410 like the families in my district that won't receive any
2411 benefits from the Pennsylvania or Michigan plants, then you
2412 shouldn't have to pay for it.

2413 It should be a simple, uncontroversial amendment. I
2414 can't believe that anyone on this committee would be in favor

2415 of making families pay for power plants they get no benefit
2416 from, so I urge bipartisan support for my amendment.

2417 And, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

2418 *The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there any
2419 discussion on the amendment?

2420 The gentleman from Virginia is recognized.

2421 *Mr. Griffith. I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2422 The arguments on this amendment are very interesting.
2423 Let's go with the first half of the arguments. It says that
2424 they are concerned because a plant in Pennsylvania and a
2425 plant in Michigan are being required to be -- stay open, and
2426 that there is -- that this is from the Secretary of Energy,
2427 and that there is no plan, and that there is no cost
2428 allocation.

2429 However, the bill actually sets up a process where a
2430 complaint has to be filed. I heard that comment made, no
2431 complaint was filed. Nobody was saying the plant should stay
2432 open. In my bill a complaint has to be filed, and it can't
2433 be by the plant operator, it has to be from somebody else,
2434 another utility, somebody in the area who is actually going
2435 to use the power. And so the first half of the argument
2436 would argue that the gentlelady ought to be supporting the
2437 measure.

2438 Now, the second part of the argument I would oppose the
2439 amendment for because it is redundant to the existing

2440 requirements at FERC, and seeks to misrepresent the intention
2441 of the legislation. As we know, FERC must already adhere to
2442 Cost Causation Principles as a part of cost allegation and
2443 determinations, and ensure that all rates are just and
2444 reasonable. Under the legislation, FERC would be empowered
2445 to both determine the compensation for plant owners, as well
2446 as cost allocation for rate recovery. These determinations
2447 must already meet the requirements of Cost Causation
2448 Principles and be just and reasonable.

2449 And again, that is if we are using the 207 process,
2450 which I am trying to put into a position to be more
2451 preeminent when we are looking at these power shortages
2452 within the grid situation. It is our hope the legislation
2453 would only be used rarely, and that our nation has sufficient
2454 resources to meet our electricity needs.

2455 Unfortunately, because of a lot of confusion, maybe even
2456 some obfuscation by some states and electricity market
2457 participants, we are in a situation where it is, frankly,
2458 very confusing as to who looks out for grid reliability.
2459 This bill will help to clarify the situation, and the
2460 amendment only makes it more confusing.

2461 We are seeing dangerous -- a dangerous rate of premature
2462 retirements of baseload power. Just this week in this heat
2463 wave we are seeing utilities asking customers to save
2464 electricity. TVA, for example -- and they serve part of my

2465 district through some of the companies that are affiliated
2466 with them -- has asked that everybody reduce their power
2467 usage today because they are concerned about potential
2468 rolling brownouts or even blackouts.

2469 But I would note -- and I know that my colleagues on the
2470 other side of the aisle really dislike coal -- and as we
2471 shift -- and I think coal still has a place, I think we can
2472 do it cleanly, but we will disagree about that. But as we
2473 are shifting, we need to make sure we don't throw the baby
2474 out with the bath water.

2475 So in 2013 the Tennessee Valley Authority, TVA,
2476 announced plans to close eight coal-fired power units, citing
2477 a flat demand for power. They have closed five of them. Now
2478 they find themselves in a growing demand for power and a heat
2479 wave, Mr. Chairman, that is requiring them to notify their
2480 customers to not use all of their power because, if everybody
2481 uses their power as they would normally do, they may have a
2482 rolling brownout or even blackouts, and then human lives are
2483 put into jeopardy.

2484 What this does is it says, all right, we are going to
2485 have FERC take a look at it, and people have to notify FERC
2486 five years in advance -- that is what the bill says -- of
2487 closing down any power plant. And if somebody complains and
2488 says, wait a minute, we don't have generation coming on
2489 board, Mr. Chairman, in time to sufficiently cover the needs

2490 of our area and we are using that power, we need to use that
2491 power to wheel it into another location, as was done at the
2492 Potomac Power Plant, where -- the only time that 207 has been
2493 used effectively -- to power Washington, D.C. so Congress
2494 could keep operating in the heat, it says we will allow that.

2495 And it can be up to five years, but it doesn't have to
2496 be five years. If it is determined that enough power is
2497 coming on board in two years, then so be it, it is a two-year
2498 order. But it gives FERC that responsibility, not the
2499 Secretary of Energy, and not, as the gentlelady said -- and I
2500 don't know the circumstances of those two plants, but she
2501 indicated that it just happened with nobody asking for it.
2502 In this case somebody has to step into the record, the public
2503 record, and say, I need this plant to stay open in order to
2504 power electricity in Virginia, or in Michigan, or in
2505 Pennsylvania. And when that happens, this bill will do it.
2506 This amendment only confiscates it. It makes it harder to
2507 determine.

2508 And I would ask everyone to vote no, and I yield back.

2509 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
2510 further discussion?

2511 The gentlelady from Florida is recognized.

2512 *Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. --

2513 *The Chair. Ms. Castor.

2514 *Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2515 *The Chair. The gentlelady, Ms. Castor, is recognized.

2516 *Ms. Castor. And I want to compliment the gentleman
2517 from Virginia, Mr. Griffith. He is a strong advocate for his
2518 constituents back in coal country. But I want to correct the
2519 record for the gentleman's comments: FERC's existing
2520 principles that rates must be just do not apply to sections
2521 2028 or 207, so this amendment is necessary.

2522 You know, members, coal has been on the decline as a
2523 power source in America for many years now. We do owe a debt
2524 to the coal miners and workers that have helped power America
2525 over the past decades. But coal accounted for about 20
2526 percent of U.S. electricity generated in 2024. That is down
2527 from 50 percent in 2000. And the main reason for that
2528 decline is simple: coal is more expensive than other options
2529 that we have today, and burning coal is a major contributor
2530 to the rising cost and impacts of the heating climate. It
2531 also has significant health impacts: asthma, cancer, heart
2532 disease, and lung disease.

2533 I point you to the heartbreaking, front-page story about
2534 the impact on coal miners' bodies and health that was in the
2535 New York Times over the past weekend. But according to a
2536 recent report, in almost every case today it is actually
2537 cheaper to build new renewables than to keep existing coal
2538 plants running in the United States.

2539 And coal is only getting more expensive. Three-quarters

2540 of coal plants saw costs rising faster than inflation between
2541 2021 and 2024. And I have to say none of my neighbors in
2542 Florida want more expensive power. We are already grappling
2543 with electric bills that are out of sight. And Republicans
2544 should stop forcing it upon the American people by making
2545 vague, half-baked claims about reliability and data centers.

2546 We know that solar, wind is flexible power. It does
2547 have some gaps. But you know what? We have solutions for
2548 that. It is called batteries. Battery storage is coming to
2549 the rescue to alleviate stress on our grid. Between May 2024
2550 and April 2025, U.S. battery storage increased by about 40
2551 percent.

2552 Plus, we decided that we are going to counter China, and
2553 we are going to build the battery technology, we are going to
2554 advance innovation in the United States of America. We are
2555 not going to run second to the Chinese Communist Party. We
2556 are going to build these systems to help power our lives and
2557 our future. Energy storage added two gigawatts just in the
2558 first quarter of this year. That is a record, and it is
2559 poised to grow if Republicans' antiquated energy policies do
2560 not get in the way.

2561 And despite what the Republicans say, we are not closing
2562 energy plants. Over the past five years the number of
2563 utility-scale electric power plants actually increased by
2564 over 2000. In 2024 the United States produced more energy

2565 than ever before, including a broad mix of renewables, gas,
2566 crude oil, biofuels, and renewables.

2567 But this amendment, Ms. Kelly's good amendment, will
2568 ensure that costs keep -- the costs of keeping specific coal
2569 plants online can only be assigned to the people who are
2570 using that more expensive power source. If you are not using
2571 that costly dirty coal plant, you shouldn't have to pay for
2572 it. It is easy, really. And if my Republican colleagues
2573 think that there are data centers or other customers that
2574 really want this expensive, polluting power, let them pay for
2575 it, not the people I represent back home. Don't force
2576 working families to subsidize big tech's power.

2577 Of course, many of those big tech companies, they don't
2578 want that dirty power anyway. They are much more interested
2579 in cheaper, more advanced solutions like grid-enhancing
2580 technologies. They want us to build more transmission, to
2581 enable more generation of all kinds, and get more out of our
2582 existing grid infrastructure.

2583 But guess who is throwing a wrench into that process, as
2584 well? In the big, ugly bill Republicans took a hatchet to
2585 the grid modernization money? Yes, to update our grid and
2586 make it stronger and more reliable.

2587 Look, the 1970s have called. They want their energy
2588 policy back. That is what you all are saying. We want to
2589 look forward. We want to go forward to the cleaner, cheaper

2590 sources, the battery storage systems fueling American
2591 innovation. But this Power Plant Reliability Act, it keeps
2592 us stuck in the past. It allows polluting plants to ignore
2593 Federal, state, and local environmental laws, and it passes
2594 costs on to working families through higher utility bills.

2595 Your family shouldn't have to pay a higher power bill
2596 just because Donald Trump wants to subsidize old, polluting
2597 power plants, and that everyone else wanted to retire years
2598 ago, so I urge my colleagues to support Ms. Kelly's good
2599 amendment.

2600 And I yield back my time.

2601 *The Chair. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back. Is
2602 there further discussion?

2603 The gentlelady from North Dakota is recognized to speak
2604 on the amendment.

2605 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also urge
2606 my colleagues to oppose this amendment and support this bill.

2607 This is not a coal bill; this is a reliability bill. We
2608 are retiring -- it is just a simple fact. We are retiring
2609 things faster than they are being replaced, and it is a real
2610 problem. And we are seeing it today. We are seeing it in
2611 America today.

2612 If you look at the MISO market, the central part of the
2613 country where my customers live, they are also experiencing
2614 hot weather. Of the 111 gigawatts of power needed to meet

2615 the demand today, only less than 3 gigawatts of it are coming
2616 from wind, despite having almost 15 percent of the nameplate
2617 capacity in that region served by wind. That isn't a knock
2618 on wind; that is just a reality. It is not windy right now.
2619 It is hot and it is not windy. So you can't generate power
2620 from wind when you don't have wind blowing. That is the
2621 problem we are in. It is not a permanent problem. It is a
2622 temporary problem as technologies evolve. Batteries are a
2623 great solution. They aren't available at a commercial scale
2624 yet. They haven't been deployed. They don't exist today to
2625 solve the problem.

2626 This is not a political statement. It should not be a
2627 political statement. It is not -- it should not be partisan
2628 to say that Americans are calling out. They want their
2629 power. They want their air conditioning. They need it now,
2630 not five years from now, when all the technologies have
2631 evolved, the new technologies to meet the demand today.

2632 So suggesting that we don't like wind or solar because
2633 we recognize that they aren't dispatchable and they can't
2634 meet the reliability needs entirely today is like suggesting
2635 that I don't like my boys because they can't have children.
2636 Like, wind cannot provide dispatchable solutions today. It
2637 just doesn't. Neither does solar. They serve a purpose, but
2638 it cannot meet 100 percent of the demand today.

2639 So really, I think I really encourage my Democrat

2640 colleagues to work with us on some of this stuff so we can
2641 have a very smooth transition to the new resources that are
2642 coming but are just not available at grid-scale today.

2643 Thank you, I yield back.

2644 *The Chair. Is there further discussion?

2645 The gentleman from Massachusetts recognized for five
2646 minutes to speak on the amendment.

2647 *Mr. Auchincloss. Thank you. I move to strike the last
2648 word.

2649 *The Chair. The gentleman is recognized.

2650 *Mr. Auchincloss. I have no doubt of the sincerity of
2651 the comments from the gentlewoman from North Dakota about --
2652 and I respect her expertise on the matter -- about a sort of
2653 fuel-agnostic, all-of-the-above clean energy strategy, just
2654 -- we have to recognize, though, that from our side of the
2655 aisle it just simply isn't what we are seeing from the
2656 regulation and legislation that is coming forward.

2657 What we are seeing is a Loan Program Office that is
2658 being gutted, which disproportionately is going to impact
2659 nuclear; we are seeing the investment in production tax
2660 credits being gutted in this One Big, Beautiful Bill that is
2661 going to impact solar, wind, geothermal, and nuclear. And
2662 then, in my home state of Massachusetts, which was on track
2663 to power up to a million homes with offshore wind over the
2664 next decade, we are seeing unbelievable, arbitrary, and

2665 capricious regulatory action that is preventing steel from
2666 going in the water.

2667 And I get that there are a lot of people who don't think
2668 that offshore wind is going to work, and that is fine. That
2669 is fine to have that opinion. But state regulators,
2670 investors, and utilities, and developers should be making
2671 that decision based on what is right for the state. In
2672 Massachusetts we happen to have a lot of offshore wind.
2673 Maybe it makes sense for us. If other states don't want to
2674 do it, fine.

2675 We are the side that is actually promoting an all-of-
2676 the-above energy strategy that is truly tech and fuel
2677 agnostic. And so when we are hearing these claims that
2678 somehow this is really just about reliability and
2679 affordability, what we are seeing is, in fact, a concerted
2680 action between the Administration and congressional
2681 Republicans to just have oil and gas jump the queue.

2682 And we are not saying that oil and gas have no place in
2683 our energy strategy as a country. What we are saying is we
2684 want to actually give all different energy strategies a
2685 chance to succeed as make sense for individual utilities and
2686 states. My constituents might benefit from offshore wind.
2687 Your constituents might benefit from different energy
2688 sources. Let them work on it.

2689 I yield back.

2690 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
2691 further discussion on the amendment?

2692 Seeing none, if there is no further discussion, a roll
2693 call vote has been requested. The clerk will call the roll.

2694 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

2695 *Mr. Latta. No.

2696 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.

2697 Mr. Griffith?

2698 *Mr. Griffith. No.

2699 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.

2700 Mr. Bilirakis?

2701 *Mr. Bilirakis. No.

2702 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes no.

2703 Mr. Hudson?

2704 [No response.]

2705 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter?

2706 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. No.

2707 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.

2708 Mr. Palmer?

2709 [No response.]

2710 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?

2711 [No response.]

2712 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw?

2713 *Mr. Crenshaw. No.

2714 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.

2715 Mr. Joyce?
2716 *Mr. Joyce. No.
2717 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.
2718 Mr. Weber?
2719 *Mr. Weber. No.
2720 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes no.
2721 Mr. Allen?
2722 *Mr. Allen. No.
2723 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes no.
2724 Mr. Balderson?
2725 *Mr. Balderson. No.
2726 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes no.
2727 Mr. Fulcher?
2728 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher, no.
2729 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes no.
2730 Mr. Pfluger?
2731 *Mr. Pfluger. No.
2732 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes no.
2733 Mrs. Harshbarger?
2734 *Mrs. Harshbarger. No.
2735 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.
2736 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
2737 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. No.
2738 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes no.
2739 Mrs. Cammack?

2740

2741 *The Clerk. Mr. Oubernolte?

2742 *Mr. Oubernolte. No.

2743 *The Clerk. Mr. Oubernolte votes no.

2744 Mr. James?

2745 *Mr. James. No.

2746 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes no.

2747 Mr. Bentz?

2748 *Mr. Bentz. No.

2749 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes no.

2750 Mrs. Houchin?

2751 [No response.]

2752 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry?

2753 *Mr. Fry. No.

2754 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes no.

2755 Ms. Lee?

2756 [No response.]

2757 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?

2758 *Mr. Langworthy. No.

2759 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes no.

2760 Mr. Kean?

2761 [No response.]

2762 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli?

2763 [No response.]

2764 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans?

2765 *Mr. Evans. No.
2766 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes no.
2767 Mr. Goldman?
2768 *Mr. Goldman. No.
2769 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes no.
2770 Mrs. Fedorchak?
2771 *Mrs. Fedorchak. No.
2772 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.
2773 Mr. Pallone?
2774 *Mr. Pallone. Aye.
2775 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.
2776 Ms. DeGette?
2777 *Ms. DeGette. Aye.
2778 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.
2779 Ms. Schakowsky?
2780 *Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.
2781 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.
2782 Ms. Matsui?
2783 *Ms. Matsui. Aye.
2784 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.
2785 Ms. Castor?
2786 *Ms. Castor. Aye.
2787 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.
2788 Mr. Tonko?
2789 *Mr. Tonko. Aye.

2790 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.
2791 Ms. Clarke?
2792 *Ms. Clarke. Aye.
2793 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.
2794 Mr. Ruiz?
2795 *Mr. Ruiz. Aye.
2796 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.
2797 Mr. Peters?
2798 [No response.]
2799 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell?
2800 [No response.]
2801 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey?
2802 *Mr. Veasey. Aye.
2803 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.
2804 Ms. Kelly?
2805 *Ms. Kelly. Aye.
2806 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.
2807 Ms. Barragan?
2808 *Ms. Barragan. Aye.
2809 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.
2810 Mr. Soto?
2811 *Mr. Soto. Aye.
2812 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.
2813 Ms. Schrier?
2814 *Ms. Schrier. Aye.

2815 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.
2816 Mrs. Trahan?
2817 *Mrs. Trahan. Aye.
2818 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.
2819 Mrs. Fletcher?
2820 *Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.
2821 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.
2822 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
2823 [No response.]
2824 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
2825 *Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.
2826 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.
2827 Mr. Carter?
2828 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.
2829 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.
2830 Ms. -- Mr. Menendez?
2831 *Mr. Menendez. Aye.
2832 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.
2833 Mr. Mullin?
2834 *Mr. Mullin. Aye.
2835 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.
2836 Mr. Landsman?
2837 *Mr. Landsman. Aye.
2838 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.
2839 Ms. McClellan?

2840 *Ms. McClellan. Aye.
2841 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.
2842 Chairman Guthrie?
2843 *The Chair. No.
2844 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes no.
2845 *The Chair. How is the gentleman from Alabama?
2846 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer is not recorded.
2847 *Mr. Palmer. Palmer votes no.
2848 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.
2849 *The Chair. Dr. Dunn?
2850 *The Clerk. Mr. --
2851 *Mr. Dunn. No.
2852 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes --
2853 *The Chair. Mrs. Houchin?
2854 *Mrs. Houchin. No.
2855 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes no.
2856 *The Chair. Anyone on the -- Mr. Peters?
2857 *Mr. Peters. Peters votes yes.
2858 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.
2859 *The Chair. Mrs. Dingell?
2860 *Mrs. Dingell. Aye.
2861 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.
2862 *The Chair. Is anyone else seeking recognition for
2863 purposes of the roll call?
2864 Seeing none, the clerk will report.

2865 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were
2866 23 ayes and 25 noes.

2867 *The Chair. The amendment is not agreed to. Are there
2868 further amendments?

2869 Seeing none --

2870 *Mr. Pallone. We will do a roll call on final.

2871 *The Chair. Okay, the question now occurs on approving
2872 H.R. 3632. A roll call has been requested, and the clerk
2873 will call the roll.

2874 *Mr. Latta. Aye.

2875 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

2876 Mr. Griffith?

2877 *Mr. Griffith. Aye.

2878 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

2879 Mr. Bilirakis?

2880 *Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.

2881 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

2882 Mr. Hudson?

2883 [No response.]

2884 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter?

2885 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.

2886 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.

2887 Mr. Palmer?

2888 *Mr. Palmer. Aye.

2889 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

2890 Mr. Dunn?
2891 *Mr. Dunn. Aye.
2892 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.
2893 Mr. Crenshaw?
2894 *Mr. Crenshaw. Aye.
2895 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.
2896 Mr. Joyce?
2897 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.
2898 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.
2899 Mr. Weber?
2900 *Mr. Weber. Aye.
2901 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.
2902 Mr. Allen?
2903 *Mr. Allen. Aye.
2904 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.
2905 Mr. Balderson?
2906 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.
2907 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.
2908 Mr. Fulcher?
2909 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is aye.
2910 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.
2911 Mr. Pfluger?
2912 [No response.]
2913 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger?
2914 *Mr. Pfluger. Yes.

2915 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes aye.
2916 Mrs. Harshbarger?
2917 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.
2918 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.
2919 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
2920 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Aye.
2921 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.
2922 Mrs. Cammack?
2923 [No response.]
2924 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte?
2925 *Mr. Obernolte. Aye.
2926 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes aye.
2927 Mr. James?
2928 *Mr. James. Aye.
2929 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.
2930 Mr. Bentz?
2931 *Mr. Bentz. Aye.
2932 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.
2933 Mrs. Houchin?
2934 *Mrs. Houchin. Aye.
2935 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.
2936 Mr. Fry?
2937 *Mr. Fry. Aye.
2938 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes aye.
2939 Ms. Lee?

2940 [No response.]

2941 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?

2942 *Mr. Langworthy. Aye.

2943 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.

2944 Mr. Kean?

2945 [No response.]

2946 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli?

2947 [No response.]

2948 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans?

2949 *Mr. Evans. Aye.

2950 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes aye.

2951 Mr. Goldman?

2952 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.

2953 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.

2954 Mrs. Fedorchak?

2955 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.

2956 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.

2957 Mr. Pallone?

2958 *Mr. Pallone. No.

2959 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.

2960 Ms. DeGette?

2961 *Ms. DeGette. No.

2962 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.

2963 Ms. Schakowsky?

2964 *Ms. Schakowsky. No.

2965 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.
2966 Ms. Matsui?
2967 [No response.]
2968 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor?
2969 *Ms. Castor. No.
2970 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.
2971 Mr. Tonko?
2972 [No response.]
2973 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke?
2974 [No response.]
2975 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz?
2976 [No response.]
2977 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters?
2978 *Mr. Peters. Aye. No, no.
2979 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.
2980 Mrs. Dingell?
2981 *Mrs. Dingell. No.
2982 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.
2983 Mr. Veasey?
2984 *Mr. Veasey. No.
2985 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.
2986 Ms. Kelly?
2987 *Ms. Kelly. No.
2988 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.
2989 Ms. Barragan?

2990 *Ms. Barragan. No.
2991 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.
2992 Mr. Soto?
2993 *Mr. Soto. No.
2994 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.
2995 Ms. Schrier?
2996 *Ms. Schrier. No.
2997 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.
2998 Mrs. Trahan?
2999 *Mrs. Trahan. No.
3000 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.
3001 Mrs. Fletcher?
3002 *Mrs. Fletcher. No.
3003 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.
3004 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
3005 [No response.]
3006 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
3007 *Mr. Auchincloss. No.
3008 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes no.
3009 Mr. Carter?
3010 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. No.
3011 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.
3012 Mr. Menendez?
3013 *Mr. Menendez. No.
3014 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes no.

3015 Mr. Mullin?

3016 *Mr. Mullin. No.

3017 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.

3018 Mr. Landsman?

3019 *Mr. Landsman. No.

3020 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes no.

3021 Ms. McClellan?

3022 *Ms. McClellan. No.

3023 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes no.

3024 Chairman Guthrie?

3025 *The Chair. Aye.

3026 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.

3027 *The Chair. Is anyone seeking recognition for the

3028 purpose of answering the roll call?

3029 *Mr. Ruiz. Mr. Chairman?

3030 *The Chair. Dr. Ruiz.

3031 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz is not recorded.

3032 *Mr. Ruiz. No.

3033 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.

3034 *The Chair. Mr. Tonko?

3035 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko is not recorded.

3036 *Mr. Tonko. Tonko votes no.

3037 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.

3038 *The Chair. Seeing any on the Republican side?

3039 Seeing none, the clerk will report.

3040 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were
3041 25 ayes and 21 noes.

3042 *The Chair. The ayes have it and the bill is adopted.
3043 The chair calls up H.R. 3638, and asks the clerk to
3044 report.

3045 *The Clerk. H.R. 3638, a bill to direct the Secretary
3046 of Energy to prepare periodic assessments and submit
3047 reports --

3048 *The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the
3049 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for
3050 amendment at any point.

3051 So ordered.

3052 [The bill follows:]

3053

3054 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

3055

3056 *The Chair. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the
3057 bill?

3058 *Mr. Latta. Mr. Chairman?

3059 *The Chair. The gentleman from Ohio seeks recognition.

3060 *Mr. Latta. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Strike the last
3061 word.

3062 *The Chair. Gentleman, you are recognized for five
3063 minutes to speak on the bill.

3064 *Mr. Latta. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to speak
3065 on my legislation, H.R. 3638, the Electric Supply Chain Act.

3066 This legislation would direct the Department of Energy
3067 to conduct ongoing assessments of matters affecting the
3068 supply chain for the power sector. The Electric Supply Chain
3069 Act will seek to uncover risk, vulnerabilities, and security
3070 considerations and the availability of manufactured grid
3071 components that are necessary to expand our electric
3072 infrastructure.

3073 As part of the direction in this legislation, the
3074 Secretary would maintain discretion to choose the appropriate
3075 office with the expertise necessary to complete the
3076 assessment. In addition, this bill will leverage the
3077 expertise of our power sector industry to improve the
3078 department's understanding and strengthen supply chains that
3079 are critical to the timely deployment and development of
3080 electric generation and transmission infrastructure.

3081 In recent years we have seen how supply chain
3082 constraints and bottlenecks for key grid components such as
3083 distribution transformers and natural gas turbines can stifle
3084 infrastructure development. By establishing periodic
3085 assessments under this legislation, the department will
3086 remain in a proactive posture to identify and address matters
3087 affecting our power sector supply chain as they arise.

3088 By all reports and projections, our nation is on the
3089 edge of dramatic increases in electricity demand, primarily
3090 driven by energy-intensive users such as data centers and
3091 domestic manufacturing. The timing of projected demands is
3092 occurring as historic levels of baseload power are leaving
3093 the system due to state and Federal actions that attack
3094 fossil fuels and subsidize preferred sources of intermittent
3095 generation. In fact, an estimated 52 gigawatts of baseload
3096 power is expected to retire over the next four years.
3097 Meanwhile, the International Energy Agency estimates U.S.
3098 electricity demand to increase over the next three years by
3099 the equivalent supply of the entire State of California.

3100 These job-creating industries remain vital to economic
3101 prosperity and our national security. We cannot sit idly by
3102 while adversaries seek to gain competitive advantage to
3103 control the next-generation economy. This bill takes an
3104 important step to prepare our Federal agencies against supply
3105 chain constraints that could occur as our nation seeks to

3106 increase electric generation to meet demands of the next
3107 generation.

3108 Importantly, during our recent hearing with Secretary
3109 Wright, he confirmed his department's ability to complete the
3110 requirements that are laid out by this legislation.

3111 I urge my colleagues to support the legislation and
3112 yield back the balance of my time.

3113 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
3114 further discussion on the amendment?

3115 Excuse me, on the bill, I am sorry. Any further
3116 discussion on the bill?

3117 Seeing none, are there any amendments?

3118 The gentlelady from Virginia, for what purpose do you
3119 seek recognition?

3120 *Ms. McClellan. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have an
3121 amendment at the desk labeled AMD_HR3638_01_xml.

3122 *The Chair. The clerk will report.

3123 *The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 3638 offered by Ms. --

3124 *The Chair. Without objection, the reading of the
3125 amendment is dispensed with.

3126 [The amendment of Ms. McClellan follows:]

3127

3128 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

3129

3130 *The Chair. And the gentlelady is recognized for five
3131 minutes in support of the amendment.

3132 *Ms. McClellan. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

3133 This amendment would prevent the bill from taking effect
3134 until the Secretary of Energy can certify two things. First,
3135 that the Department of Energy has sufficient staff in place
3136 to support the timely progress of ongoing programs and
3137 projects authorized and funded by Congress in addition to the
3138 new responsibilities like the assessments required in this
3139 bill. Having the Secretary say in a committee hearing that
3140 he has the resources to do this bill but not to go further to
3141 say he has the resources to do all of the responsibilities
3142 Congress has placed on the Department of Energy is
3143 nonsensical.

3144 And when Secretary Wright was here a couple of weeks
3145 ago, a number of Democrats on this committee asked about the
3146 Department of Energy staffing issues. Secretary Wright did
3147 not give us a straightforward answer or visibility into those
3148 numbers, or how the department intends to continue with
3149 ongoing and future projects, given the cuts that they have
3150 faced. He also hasn't responded to inquiries from this
3151 committee about department staffing issues. And as I
3152 mentioned during that budget hearing, my own office has
3153 experienced this lack of response and visibility from the
3154 department.

3155 However, Secretary Wright did stress the importance of
3156 the Department of Energy, its national labs, and various
3157 programs like the Loans Program Office. So everyone should
3158 recognize the value of the Department of Energy's work, but
3159 no one seems willing to answer important questions about who
3160 is left to complete the work that Congress has already put on
3161 them, in addition to these new bills that we seek to pass
3162 today.

3163 As this committee considers the Electric Supply Chain
3164 Act, we have to look at the bigger picture and the reality of
3165 the reckless workforce reductions and funding cuts that have
3166 already happened or are in process right now. DOGE has
3167 already forced out over 3,500 key Department of Energy staff.
3168 Key offices responsible for implementing this bill have lost
3169 a significant portion of their staff. And Secretary Wright
3170 hasn't given us any assurances that there won't be further
3171 mass lay-offs.

3172 In our districts, businesses and community partners are
3173 already waiting to hear from the department about critical
3174 contracts and access to funding. Congressional offices
3175 inquiring on their behalf still haven't received answers. My
3176 office has heard that in some cases the department can't even
3177 determine who is responsible for certain projects because too
3178 many qualified staff have been fired or pushed out. And with
3179 the department already struggling to meet its current

3180 workload, how can we pretend it is business as usual and
3181 justify adding additional work? These harmful workforce cuts
3182 that have occurred must end, and before we add new
3183 responsibilities Congress must have clear, updated
3184 information on DoE staffing levels, office capabilities, and
3185 operating plans.

3186 You know, one of the things I miss about being a state
3187 legislator is, whenever we passed a bill that would add new
3188 responsibilities on a state agency, we had to have a fiscal
3189 impact statement that included how many full-time equivalent
3190 employees would be needed to carry out that work. It wasn't
3191 just a financial requirement because states can't print money
3192 and have to have a balanced budget, but it gave us the
3193 ability to see do our agencies have the workload needed to do
3194 their lawfully mandated work?

3195 That is simply what we are asking for now. It is common
3196 sense, and it helps us take a holistic view at does the
3197 department have the resources it needs to do its current job,
3198 in addition to the ones this bill would add on it.

3199 And with that I yield back.

3200 *The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there
3201 further discussion on the amendment?

3202 The gentleman from Ohio is recognized to speak on the
3203 amendment.

3204 *Mr. Latta. Oh, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. And

3205 Mr. Chairman, I strongly oppose this amendment, as it is a
3206 distraction to the underlying policy.

3207 This amendment would require the Secretary of Energy to
3208 certify the department has sufficient staff to complete the
3209 report and certify there are no planned reductions in force.
3210 During our recent hearing with Secretary Wright, he confirmed
3211 his department's ability to complete the requirements laid
3212 out by this legislation.

3213 This legislation also provides discretion to the
3214 department to choose the appropriate office with the
3215 expertise to complete the assessments. In addition, it is
3216 important to remember that the Department of Energy underwent
3217 reorganization efforts under both Presidents Obama and Biden.
3218 Consistent with that precedent, the Trump Administration is
3219 taking a similar approach. We should not lose sight of the
3220 reality that the department today operates with about 35,000
3221 more contractors and employees than it did 5 years ago. Most
3222 of that increases from the past four years.

3223 Both sides of the aisle agree that we must ensure that
3224 our supply chain disruptions do not inhibit our ability to
3225 meet the demands of the next-generation industries. This
3226 legislation will place DoE in a proactive posture to address
3227 any potential disruptions and identify vulnerabilities that
3228 may pose a threat to reliability.

3229 I urge my colleagues to oppose the amendment, and I

3230 yield back the balance of my time.

3231 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
3232 further discussion?

3233 The gentlelady from Washington, Dr. Schrier, is
3234 recognized to speak on the amendment.

3235 *Ms. Schrier. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last
3236 word.

3237 *The Chair. The gentlelady is recognized.

3238 *Ms. Schrier. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I strike the
3239 last word to strongly support Representative McClellan's very
3240 timely and pragmatic amendment, because this consideration of
3241 DoE staffing just makes common sense, especially right now.

3242 We both agree that a study on supply chain issues for
3243 critical grid equipment is a great and smart thing, and we
3244 have all heard from utilities in our districts about
3245 dangerously low transformer inventories, in particular. The
3246 vulnerabilities in our supply chain have significantly
3247 increased lead times in the past few years.

3248 And what troubles me is the crickets that I hear from my
3249 colleagues on the other side of the aisle when the
3250 Administration does things like cut in half the staff of the
3251 Department of Energy charged with manufacturing and supply
3252 chains, or double down on the chaotic tariff rollout on
3253 steel, the same steel that critical grid components are made
3254 of. All of this ultimately leads to higher costs and less

3255 reliable electricity, and that is our focus.

3256 So I would say to my Republican colleagues, here is your
3257 chance. This amendment is your opportunity to show that you
3258 are pragmatic and you mean business. All this amendment is
3259 asking for is a thumbs up from the -- from Secretary Wright
3260 that he has got the workforce and the resources necessary to
3261 carry out the Department of Energy's mission and safeguard
3262 the country's energy security, including electrical supply
3263 chains.

3264 I strongly support this amendment, and I yield back.

3265 *The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there
3266 further discussion?

3267 Seeing none, if there is no further discussion, the vote
3268 occurs on the amendment. A roll call vote has been
3269 requested. The clerk will call the roll.

3270 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

3271 *Mr. Latta. No.

3272 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.

3273 Mr. Griffith?

3274 [No response.]

3275 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis?

3276 [No response.]

3277 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?

3278 [No response.]

3279 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter?

3280 [No response.]

3281 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer?

3282 *Mr. Palmer. No.

3283 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.

3284 Mr. Dunn?

3285 *Mr. Dunn. No.

3286 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.

3287 Mr. Crenshaw?

3288 [No response.]

3289 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce?

3290 *Mr. Joyce. No.

3291 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.

3292 Mr. Weber?

3293 *Mr. Weber. No.

3294 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes no.

3295 Mr. Allen?

3296 *Mr. Allen. No.

3297 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes no.

3298 Mr. Balderson?

3299 [No response.]

3300 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher?

3301 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is no.

3302 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes no.

3303 Mr. Pfluger?

3304 [No response.]

3305
3306 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger?
3307 *Mrs. Harshbarger. No.
3308 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.
3309 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
3310 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. No.
3311 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes no.
3312 Mrs. Cammack?
3313 *Mrs. Cammack. No.
3314 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes no.
3315 Mr. Obernolte?
3316 [No response.]
3317 *The Clerk. Mr. James?
3318 *Mr. James. No.
3319 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes no.
3320 Mr. Bentz?
3321 *Mr. Bentz. No.
3322 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes no.
3323 Mrs. Houchin?
3324 *Mrs. Houchin. No.
3325 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes no.
3326 Mr. Fry?
3327 *Mr. Fry. No.
3328 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes no.
3329 Ms. Lee?

3330 [No response.]

3331 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?

3332 *Mr. Langworthy. No.

3333 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes no.

3334 Mr. Kean?

3335 [No response.]

3336 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes no.

3337 Mr. Rulli?

3338 *Mr. Rulli. No.

3339 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes on.

3340 Mr. Evans?

3341 *Mr. Evans. No.

3342 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes no.

3343 Mr. Goldman?

3344 *Mr. Goldman. No.

3345 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes no.

3346 Mrs. Fedorchak?

3347 *Mrs. Fedorchak. No.

3348 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.

3349 Mr. Pallone?

3350 *Mr. Pallone. Aye.

3351 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.

3352 Ms. DeGette?

3353 *Ms. DeGette. Aye.

3354 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.

3355 Ms. Schakowsky?
3356 *Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.
3357 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.
3358 Ms. Matsui?
3359 [No response.]
3360 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor?
3361 *Ms. Castor. No.
3362 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.
3363 Mr. Tonko?
3364 *Mr. Tonko. No.
3365 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.
3366 Ms. Clarke?
3367 *Ms. Clarke. Aye.
3368 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.
3369 Mr. Ruiz?
3370 *Mr. Ruiz. Aye.
3371 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.
3372 Mr. Peters?
3373 *Mr. Peters. Aye.
3374 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.
3375 Mrs. Dingell?
3376 *Mrs. Dingell. Aye.
3377 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.
3378 Mr. Veasey?
3379 *Mr. Veasey. Aye.

3380 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.
3381 Ms. Kelly?
3382 *Ms. Kelly. Aye.
3383 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.
3384 Ms. Barragan?
3385 *Ms. Barragan. Aye.
3386 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.
3387 Mr. Soto?
3388 *Mr. Soto. Aye.
3389 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.
3390 Ms. Schrier?
3391 *Ms. Schrier. Aye.
3392 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.
3393 Mrs. Trahan?
3394 *Mrs. Trahan. Aye.
3395 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.
3396 Mrs. Fletcher?
3397 *Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.
3398 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.
3399 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
3400 [No response.]
3401 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
3402 *Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.
3403 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.
3404 Mr. Carter?

3405 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.
3406 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.
3407 Mr. Menendez?
3408 *Mr. Menendez. Aye.
3409 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.
3410 Mr. Mullin?
3411 *Mr. Mullin. Aye.
3412 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.
3413 Mr. Landsman?
3414 [No response.]
3415 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan?
3416 *Ms. McClellan. Aye.
3417 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.
3418 Chairman Guthrie?
3419 *The Chair. No.
3420 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes no.
3421 *Ms. Castor. Mr. Chairman?
3422 *The Chair. How is Ms. Castor recorded?
3423 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor is recorded as no.
3424 *Ms. Castor. I am going to change to aye.
3425 *The Chair. Mr. Tonko?
3426 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor is off no and on aye.
3427 *The Chair. Mr. Tonko?
3428 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko is recorded as no.
3429 *Mr. Tonko. Record Tonko as aye.

3430 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko is off no and on aye.
3431 *The Chair. Mr. Landsman?
3432 *Mr. Landsman. Aye.
3433 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.
3434 *The Chair. Mr. Griffith?
3435 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith is not recorded.
3436 *Mr. Griffith. No.
3437 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.
3438 *The Chair. Mr. Bilirakis?
3439 *Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes no.
3440 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes no.
3441 *The Chair. Mr. Carter?
3442 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter is not recorded.
3443 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. No.
3444 *The Chair. Mr. Crenshaw?
3445 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.
3446 *Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes no.
3447 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.
3448 *The Chair. Mr. Balderson?
3449 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson is not recorded.
3450 *Mr. Balderson. No.
3451 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes no.
3452 *The Chair. Is anyone seeking recognition to vote or
3453 change their vote?
3454 Seeing none, the clerk will report.

3455 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were
3456 22 ayes and 26 noes.

3457 *The Chair. The amendment is not agreed to. Is there
3458 -- are there further amendments on the bill?

3459 Seeing none, if there is no further discussion, the vote
3460 occurs on the bill. The question now occurs on approving
3461 H.R. 3638. A roll call has been requested, and the clerk
3462 will call the roll.

3463 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

3464 *Mr. Latta. Aye.

3465 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

3466 Mr. Griffith?

3467 *Mr. Griffith. Aye.

3468 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

3469 Mr. Bilirakis?

3470 *Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.

3471 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

3472 Mr. Hudson?

3473 [No response.]

3474 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter?

3475 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.

3476 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.

3477 Mr. Palmer?

3478 *Mr. Palmer. Aye.

3479 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

3480 Mr. Dunn?

3481 *Mr. Dunn. Aye.

3482 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.

3483 Mr. Crenshaw?

3484 *Mr. Crenshaw. Aye.

3485 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

3486 Mr. Joyce?

3487 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.

3488 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.

3489 Mr. Weber?

3490 *Mr. Weber. Yes, ma'am.

3491 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.

3492 Mr. Allen?

3493 *Mr. Allen. Aye.

3494 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.

3495 Mr. Balderson?

3496 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.

3497 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.

3498 Mr. Fulcher?

3499 [No response.]

3500 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger?

3501 [No response.]

3502 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger?

3503 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.

3504 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.

3505 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
3506 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Aye.
3507 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.
3508 Mrs. Cammack?
3509 *Mrs. Cammack. Aye.
3510 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.
3511 Mr. Obernolte?
3512 *Mr. Obernolte. Aye.
3513 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes aye.
3514 Mr. James?
3515 *Mr. James. Aye.
3516 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.
3517 Mr. Bentz?
3518 *Mr. Bentz. Aye.
3519 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.
3520 Mrs. Houchin?
3521 *Mrs. Houchin. Aye.
3522 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.
3523 Mr. Fry?
3524 *Mr. Fry. Aye.
3525 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes aye.
3526 Ms. Lee?
3527 [No response.]
3528 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
3529 *Mr. Langworthy. Aye.

3530 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.
3531 Mr. Kean?
3532 *Mr. Kean. Aye.
3533 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes aye.
3534 Mr. Rulli?
3535 *Mr. Rulli. Aye.
3536 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.
3537 Mr. Evans?
3538 *Mr. Evans. Aye.
3539 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes aye.
3540 Mr. Goldman?
3541 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.
3542 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.
3543 Mrs. Fedorchak?
3544 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.
3545 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.
3546 Mr. Pallone?
3547 *Mr. Pallone. No.
3548 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.
3549 Ms. DeGette?
3550 *Ms. DeGette. No.
3551 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.
3552 Ms. Schakowsky?
3553 *Ms. Schakowsky. No.
3554 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.

3555 Ms. Matsui?
3556 [No response.]
3557 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor?
3558 *Ms. Castor. No.
3559 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.
3560 Mr. Tonko?
3561 *Mr. Tonko. No.
3562 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.
3563 Ms. Clarke?
3564 [No response.]
3565 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz?
3566 *Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz, no.
3567 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.
3568 Mr. Peters?
3569 [No response.]
3570 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell?
3571 *Mrs. Dingell. No.
3572 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.
3573 Mr. Veasey?
3574 *Mr. Veasey. No.
3575 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.
3576 Ms. Kelly?
3577 *Ms. Kelly. No.
3578 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.
3579 Ms. Barragan?

3580 *Ms. Barragan. No.
3581 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.
3582 Mr. Soto?
3583 *Mr. Soto. Aye.
3584 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.
3585 Ms. Schrier?
3586 *Ms. Schrier. Aye.
3587 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.
3588 Mrs. Trahan?
3589 *Mrs. Trahan. No.
3590 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.
3591 Mrs. Fletcher?
3592 *Mrs. Fletcher. No.
3593 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.
3594 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
3595 [No response.]
3596 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
3597 *Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.
3598 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.
3599 Mr. Carter?
3600 [No response.]
3601 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter?
3602 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. No.
3603 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.
3604 Mr. Menendez?

3605 *Mr. Menendez. No.

3606 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes no.

3607 Mr. Mullin?

3608 *Mr. Mullin. No.

3609 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.

3610 Mr. Landsman?

3611 *Mr. Landsman. Aye.

3612 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.

3613 Ms. McClellan?

3614 *Ms. McClellan. No.

3615 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes no.

3616 Chairman Guthrie?

3617 *The Chair. Aye.

3618 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.

3619 *The Chair. Are there any -- Mr. Fulcher?

3620 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher is not recorded.

3621 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is aye.

3622 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.

3623 *The Chair. Mr. Peters?

3624 *Mr. Peters. Peters votes aye.

3625 *The Chair. Ms. Clarke, sorry.

3626 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.

3627 *Ms. Clarke. Clarke is no.

3628 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.

3629 *The Chair. Mrs. Trahan?

3630 *Mrs. Trahan. Trahan is a yes.

3631 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan is off no and on aye.

3632 *The Chair. Are there any other people wishing to vote
3633 or change their vote?

3634 Seeing none, the clerk will report.

3635 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were
3636 33 ayes and 16 noes.

3637 *The Chair. The ayes have it, and the bill is adopted.

3638 The chair calls up H.R. 3157, and asks the clerk to
3639 report.

3640 *The Clerk. H.R. 3157, a bill to amend the --

3641 *The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the
3642 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be up for amendment
3643 at any point.

3644 So ordered.

3645 [The bill follows:]

3646

3647 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

3648

3649 *The Chair. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the
3650 bill?

3651 *Mr. Langworthy. Mr. Chairman?

3652 *The Chair. For what purpose does gentleman from New
3653 York seek recognition?

3654 *Mr. Langworthy. Thank you very much. I would like to
3655 speak on my legislation.

3656 *The Chair. You are recognized for five minutes to
3657 speak on the bill.

3658 *Mr. Langworthy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3659 Today we are considering my bill, H.R. 3157, the State
3660 Energy Accountability Act, legislation that ensures state
3661 energy policies are transparent, and that the public fully
3662 understands how these decisions may affect the reliability
3663 and affordability of their energy supply.

3664 Specifically, my bill would amend the Public Utility
3665 Regulatory Policies Act, or PURPA, to add a new standard
3666 requiring state utility regulators to conduct and publish
3667 evaluations of the impact of their intermittent energy
3668 mandates. These evaluations must assess long-term resource
3669 adequacy, the ability to meet demand during extreme weather
3670 or peak load, ratepayer impacts, and whether retiring
3671 baseload plans can realistically be replaced by resources
3672 that the state is requiring.

3673 And critically, these evaluations must be made public.

3674 Transparency is not a luxury. It is the minimum obligation
3675 policymakers and regulators owe to the people who will bear
3676 the cost and who depend on a reliable power grid.

3677 It is telling how many of our colleagues today have
3678 expressed concerns about the transparency this legislation or
3679 other measures we are considering today would bring to state
3680 energy policies. It is almost seems as though they would
3681 prefer to keep the public in the dark about real-world
3682 consequences that come with radical, rush-to-green mandates.
3683 Too often, policies and mandates in New York, California, and
3684 elsewhere are pushed forward in pursuit of ambitious climate
3685 goals without a thorough assessment of what their downstream
3686 impacts, particularly on the bulk power system, would be. the
3687 American people, no matter where they live. They deserve the
3688 unvarnished truth about these consequences.

3689 In my home state of New York, the Climate Leadership and
3690 Community Protection Act, or the CLCPA, is a case study in
3691 what happens when ambition and radical ideology ignore
3692 reality and practicality. It sets some of the most
3693 aggressive climate goals in the country, 100 percent zero-
3694 emission electricity by 2024 and net zero emissions economy-
3695 wide by 2050. But here is the problem: there is no clear,
3696 credible road map to get there without compromising grid
3697 reliability and affordability for millions of New Yorkers.
3698 Report after report from New York's ISO make it clear.

3699 Phase-out of reliable baseload resources like natural gas is
3700 outstripping the build-out of any viable replacement. On its
3701 current trajectory, New York is heading straight for a
3702 serious capacity shortfall, especially during winter peaks or
3703 extreme weather. This is life-threatening.

3704 And then there is the cost. New York's own Climate
3705 Action Council has acknowledged implementation could run into
3706 the hundreds of billions of dollars. This is an economic
3707 burden that is already landing on the backs of families,
3708 small businesses, farmers, and seniors in my state.

3709 Americans deserve a clear understanding of how their
3710 energy policy decisions will impact their daily lives, their
3711 monthly bills, and their long-term quality of life. My bill,
3712 the State Energy Accountability Act, is so important that it
3713 doesn't ban renewable energy, it simply says if you are going
3714 to mandate it, you owe constituents the truth.

3715 So I urge my colleagues to support this measure and,
3716 with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

3717 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
3718 further discussion on the bill?

3719 *Mr. Pallone. Do you want a roll call?

3720 *The Chair. Seeing none -- do you want a roll call?
3721 Okay.

3722 Seeing none, if there is no further discussion, a vote
3723 occurs on the bill, on approving H.R. 3157.

3724 All those in favor should aye. Excuse me. A roll call
3725 has been requested, and the clerk will call the roll.
3726 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?
3727 [No response.]
3728 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?
3729 *Mr. Griffith. Yes.
3730 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.
3731 Mr. Bilirakis?
3732 *Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.
3733 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.
3734 Mr. Hudson?
3735 [No response.]
3736 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter?
3737 [No response.]
3738 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer?
3739 [No response.]
3740 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?
3741 *Mr. Dunn. Yes.
3742 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.
3743 Mr. Crenshaw?
3744 *Mr. Crenshaw. Aye.
3745 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.
3746 Mr. Joyce?
3747 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.
3748 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.

3749 Mr. Weber?

3750 *Mr. Weber. Aye.

3751 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.

3752 Mr. Allen?

3753 *Mr. Allen. Aye.

3754 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.

3755 Mr. Balderson?

3756 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.

3757 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.

3758 Mr. Fulcher?

3759 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is aye.

3760 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.

3761 Mr. Pfluger?

3762 [No response.]

3763 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger?

3764 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.

3765 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.

3766 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?

3767 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Aye.

3768 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.

3769 Mrs. Cammack?

3770 *Mrs. Cammack. Aye.

3771 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.

3772 Mr. Obernolte?

3773 *Mr. Obernolte. Aye.

3774 *The Clerk. Mr. Oubernolte votes aye.
3775 Mr. James?
3776 *Mr. James. Aye.
3777 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.
3778 Mr. Bentz?
3779 *Mr. Bentz. Aye.
3780 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.
3781 Mrs. Houchin?
3782 *Mrs. Houchin. Aye.
3783 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.
3784 Mr. Fry?
3785 *Mr. Fry. Aye.
3786 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes aye.
3787 Ms. Lee?
3788 [No response.]
3789 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
3790 *Mr. Langworthy. Aye.
3791 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.
3792 Mr. Kean?
3793 *Mr. Kean. Aye.
3794 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes aye.
3795 Mr. Rulli?
3796 *Mr. Rulli. Aye.
3797 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.
3798 Mr. Evans?

3799 *Mr. Evans. Aye.
3800 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes aye.
3801 Mr. Goldman?
3802 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.
3803 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.
3804 Mrs. Fedorchak?
3805 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.
3806 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.
3807 Mr. Pallone?
3808 *Mr. Pallone. No.
3809 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.
3810 Ms. DeGette?
3811 *Ms. DeGette. No.
3812 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.
3813 Ms. Schakowsky?
3814 *Ms. Schakowsky. No.
3815 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.
3816 Ms. Matsui?
3817 [No response.]
3818 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor?
3819 *Ms. Castor. No.
3820 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.
3821 Mr. Tonko?
3822 *Mr. Tonko. No.
3823 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.

3824 Ms. Clarke?
3825 [No response.]
3826 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz?
3827 *Mr. Ruiz. No.
3828 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.
3829 Mr. Peters?
3830 [No response.]
3831 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters?
3832 [No response.]
3833 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters?
3834 *Mr. Peters. Aye.
3835 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.
3836 Mrs. Dingell?
3837 *Mrs. Dingell. No.
3838 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.
3839 Mr. Veasey?
3840 *Mr. Veasey. No.
3841 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.
3842 Ms. Kelly?
3843 [No response.]
3844 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan?
3845 *Ms. Barragan. No.
3846 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.
3847 Mr. Soto?
3848 *Mr. Soto. No.

3849 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.
3850 Ms. Schrier?
3851 *Ms. Schrier. No.
3852 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.
3853 Mrs. Trahan?
3854 *Mrs. Trahan. No.
3855 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.
3856 Mrs. Fletcher?
3857 *Mrs. Fletcher. No.
3858 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.
3859 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
3860 [No response.]
3861 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
3862 *Mr. Auchincloss. No.
3863 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes no.
3864 Mr. Carter?
3865 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. No.
3866 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.
3867 Mr. Menendez?
3868 *Mr. Menendez. No.
3869 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes no.
3870 Mr. Mullin?
3871 *Mr. Mullin. No.
3872 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.
3873 Mr. Landsman?

3874 *Mr. Landsman. No.

3875 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes no.

3876 Ms. McClellan?

3877 [No response.]

3878 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie?

3879 *The Chair. Aye.

3880 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.

3881 *The Chair. How is Mr. Carter recorded?

3882 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter is not recorded.

3883 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.

3884 *The Chair. Mr. Latta?

3885 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.

3886 *The Chair. Mr. Latta?

3887 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta is not recorded.

3888 *Mr. Latta. Aye.

3889 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

3890 *The Chair. Ms. McClellan?

3891 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan is not recorded.

3892 *Ms. McClellan. No.

3893 *The Chair. Ms. McClellan votes no.

3894 *The Chair. Is anyone here -- else seeking to answer

3895 the roll call?

3896 Seeing none, the clerk will report.

3897 *Ms. Clarke. Hello.

3898 *The Chair. Oh, before the clerk reports, Ms. Clarke.

3899 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke is not recorded.

3900 *Ms. Clarke. No.

3901 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.

3902 *The Chair. Seeing none others, the clerk will report.

3903 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie, on that vote there were
3904 27 ayes and 20 noes.

3905 *The Chair. The ayes have it, and the bill is adopted.

3906 The chair calls up H.R. 3628, and asks the clerk to
3907 report.

3908 *The Clerk. H.R. 3628, a bill to amend the Public
3909 Utility Regulatory Policies Act --

3910 *The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the
3911 bill is dispensed with. The bill will be open for amendment
3912 at any point.

3913 So ordered.

3914 [The bill follows:]

3915

3916 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

3917

3918 *The Chair. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the
3919 bill?

3920 For what purpose does the gentleman from Colorado seek
3921 recognition?

3922 *Mr. Evans. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike
3923 the last --

3924 *The Chair. You are recognized for five minutes to
3925 speak on the bill.

3926 *Mr. Evans. Again, thank you, Mr. Chairman and Ranking
3927 Member. It is an honor to once again be before my colleagues
3928 today and urge support for my bill, the State Planning for
3929 Reliability and Affordability Act.

3930 This is a common-sense measure that will help
3931 incentivize better energy policy in Colorado and across the
3932 nation, and help states lower the financial burden that
3933 constituents like mine are facing by encouraging states to
3934 consider implementing policy that focuses on long-term energy
3935 reliability, which, of course, encourages affordability for
3936 working-class families.

3937 Countless folks in my district are working tirelessly to
3938 put food on the table and achieve the American dream. But
3939 one of the biggest hurdles that my constituents are facing
3940 right now is skyrocketing utility costs. As I mentioned
3941 earlier this month, when the bill was reported out of the
3942 subcommittee, Coloradans are paying 24 percent more in

3943 electricity costs now than they were just four years ago.
3944 This spike in electricity cost didn't materialize out of thin
3945 air or in a vacuum; it is the result of deliberate policy
3946 decisions made by my governor, the legislature, and the
3947 Colorado Public Utilities Commission.

3948 But don't take my word for it. The non-partisan Common
3949 Sense Institute in Colorado released a report in January of
3950 this year on the future of electricity costs in Colorado.
3951 One of the big findings in this report reads -- and I quote
3952 -- "Driven by state policy mandates to reduce greenhouse gas
3953 emissions, electricity prices are projected to grow at more
3954 than 3 times the rate of inflation and nearly 13 times the
3955 growth rate from 2010 to 2020.'" The report goes on to
3956 project that by 2030 the average household will be spending
3957 390 to \$504 more annually due to rates outpacing inflation
3958 and historic trends. All households combined will spend
3959 between 970 million and 1.25 billion more in electricity
3960 costs, and the average electric rate will grow by 56 percent
3961 from \$0.12 a kilowatt hour to 18.4 cents a kilowatt hour.
3962 That is not partisan conjecture. Those are the cold, hard
3963 facts that my constituents have to face.

3964 And these policies aren't just a threat to affordability
3965 for countless families across the country. They also
3966 jeopardize long-term reliability. In fact, as recently as
3967 two years ago a major service provider in my district

3968 forecast a capacity shortage of more than 125 megawatts of
3969 power due to the premature retirement of baseload
3970 dispatchable power. That is more than 25,000 homes' worth of
3971 power.

3972 Just last month I met with a company in my district that
3973 is doing cutting-edge work to advance quantum computing
3974 technology, and was recently recognized as a leader in that
3975 field. But they are told -- they told me they are being
3976 forced to move into a different building and pay
3977 substantially more in rent to be connected to an electrical
3978 substation directly because they literally could not keep the
3979 lights on in their current location due to frequent power
3980 outages.

3981 How can we beat China in areas like AI and quantum
3982 computing if we can't meet basic energy demand? And that is
3983 why my State Planning for Reliability and Affordability Act
3984 is so important. It takes a light touch and a regulatory
3985 approach to incentivizing utilities like the Colorado Public
3986 Utilities Commission to consider long-term reliability
3987 requirements that help bolster and support American
3988 innovation, keep the lights on rain and shine, and reduce
3989 utility bills for working families. That way, when weighing
3990 policies that impact energy reliability, these entities have
3991 to take thoughtful stakeholder feedback into account before
3992 making their decision.

3993 And this bill doesn't just support traditional fuels.
3994 It supports all sources of reliable power, from natural gas
3995 to nuclear generation to battery storage. I am proud that my
3996 district continues to remain at the forefront of American
3997 energy dominance, with continued investments in all types of
3998 safe, affordable, and reliable electricity generation,
3999 generation that is critical to meeting the demands of future,
4000 and which Congress is encouraging states to prioritize long-
4001 term reliability. That is what my bill does, and I urge my
4002 colleagues to join me in supporting this common-sense bill.

4003 I yield back.

4004 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
4005 discussion on the bill?

4006 The gentlelady from Colorado is recognized for five
4007 minutes to speak on the bill.

4008 *Ms. DeGette. Thanks, Mr. Chairman. Just like in the
4009 subcommittee, I feel like I have to really correct the record
4010 on a lot of things my colleague off to the north has said.

4011 This bill defines reliable energy as operating on a
4012 continuous basis for at least 30 days with an adequate fuel
4013 or continuously available energy source on site. Defining
4014 reliable energy in these terms implies that renewable energy
4015 is less reliable and more expensive, neither of which are
4016 true. Just because a source is defined as intermittent does
4017 not mean that a system with a lot of those resources is not

4018 reliable. That is just not correct.

4019 The non-partisan think tank from Colorado, RMI,
4020 published a report saying that grid reliability is not
4021 defined by the energy source itself, but rather how the grid
4022 functions collectively. Reliability is achieved through a
4023 multi-pronged approach of diversifying the energy sources on
4024 the grid, which includes wind, solar, and other renewables;
4025 two, adding more interregional transmission to reinforce the
4026 grid; and three, reinforcing energy efficiency. In other
4027 words, a grid that has more generation from a diverse array
4028 of sources and is more interconnected to neighboring grids
4029 ensures that there is enough power to meet demand and to be
4030 nimble enough to dispatch power where it is most needed
4031 during peak times or outages.

4032 My colleague talks about this company in his district
4033 that had to move buildings. That is not a problem with
4034 source; that is a problem with inadequate interconnection,
4035 and that is something we need to work on. If we bring more
4036 renewable energy onto the grid, that will only help increase
4037 reliability.

4038 And I want to remind you of what I said when we marked
4039 up the bill in subcommittee. The Texas power outages during
4040 the winter storms in 2021 were not caused by renewables, but
4041 inadequately weatherized power plants and natural gas plants.
4042 The pipes froze. That is what happened. And in fact, in

4043 Texas during that time renewables outperformed grid operator
4044 forecasts during 90 percent of the blackout.

4045 We have established this bill's claim that clean energy
4046 being unreliable is false, so let's turn to the claim that it
4047 is more expensive. During the subcommittee markup and again
4048 today, my colleague cited that in our home state Colorado's
4049 electricity costs rose by 24 percent in 4 years. So I want
4050 to set the record straight, and this is really important.
4051 That statistic includes natural gas. It includes natural
4052 gas. In fact, the independent think tank Energy Innovation
4053 concluded that the volatility of fossil fuels is the
4054 contributing factor to the rising prices in that period.

4055 Nationally, the states most reliant on fossil fuels, as
4056 well as states that were vulnerable to wildfire during this
4057 period as Colorado was saw the highest spikes in utility
4058 prices between 2021 and 2024. So utility bill increases are
4059 a crisis, but they are not a crisis caused by renewable
4060 energy. As recently as earlier this year, Xcel Energy, the
4061 largest utility in our state, announced that utility bills
4062 would increase in March due to the increasing cost of natural
4063 gas.

4064 If the goal is to achieve reliability and affordability,
4065 then my friends across the aisle shouldn't fight to defund
4066 clean energy projects and get the clean energy tax credits in
4067 the IRA and IIJA -- repealing existing energy tax credits is

4068 only going to increase cumulative household energy costs.
4069 Just in our home state, for example, all Coloradoans would
4070 see a cumulative energy -- a cumulative increase in household
4071 energy costs of \$1.6 billion through 2035.

4072 The State Planning for Reliability and Affordability Act
4073 creates a definition that achieves neither reliable nor
4074 affordable energy. And so, therefore, I really suggest that
4075 we spend our time trying to work on the grid, trying to work
4076 on renewables, and trying to work on a diverse energy
4077 portfolio that focuses on reliability and affordability for
4078 consumers.

4079 With that I yield back.

4080 *The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there
4081 further discussion?

4082 Dr. Ruiz is recognized for five minutes to speak on the
4083 bill.

4084 *Mr. Ruiz. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can get to
4085 energy reliability and affordability through renewable energy
4086 and protect public health, creating good-paying jobs and
4087 strengthening our national security.

4088 In my district, including the Coachella and Imperial
4089 Valley, fossil fuel pollution is a daily reality. We have
4090 some of the worst air quality in the nation, and our children
4091 suffer from high asthma rates. The American Lung Association
4092 has given Riverside County an F for air pollution. Our

4093 energy future should not rely only on fossil fuels to meet
4094 demand.

4095 This bill, H.R. 3628, the State Planning for Reliability
4096 and Affordability Act, however, requires states to consider
4097 traditional fossil fuel generation in their integrated
4098 resource planning by including a definition of "reliable
4099 generation facility" that virtually excludes clean energy.
4100 This bill drags us backwards. It is another way to put more
4101 barriers ahead of renewable energy. And renewable energy
4102 with battery energy storage can get us to that full 24/7
4103 reliability. Solar, wind, and geothermal, paired with modern
4104 transmission and grid scale battery storage supported by
4105 lithium from places like Lithium Valley in my district, can
4106 provide consistent power 24/7.

4107 In fact, there is a recent report released June this
4108 month, 2025, from Lazard's Level (sic) Cost of Energy
4109 analysis that showed that solar and wind energy are cheaper
4110 than electricity from fossil fuel plants in the United
4111 States. So they reduce emissions, they reduce our energy
4112 bills, they create jobs, and lessen our dependence on
4113 volatile fossil fuel markets.

4114 Still, some want to cut funding for programs that make
4115 this clean energy future possible. They seek to undo
4116 investments from the Inflation Reduction Act, investments
4117 that advance battery innovation, clean energy, and public

4118 health protections. We cannot afford to roll back progress.
4119 These investments must be preserved and expanded to modernize
4120 our grid and protect high-risk communities, not hampered by
4121 funding cuts.

4122 This conversation is about more than electricity, as
4123 well. It is about health, opportunity, energy independence.
4124 And we know that, with the volatile situation in Iran, we are
4125 dependent often times with non-friendly countries for our
4126 fossil fuel and oil.

4127 So we can have energy reliability and protect the
4128 public's health. We don't need to sacrifice people's health.
4129 We have the technology and Federal resources to power our
4130 country with clean, renewable energy, not just today but for
4131 generations to come. What we need is the courage and the
4132 political will to do the right thing and invest in it.

4133 So I oppose this bill and I urge a no vote. I yield
4134 back.

4135 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
4136 further discussion?

4137 Seeing no further discussion, are there any amendments?

4138 Seeing none, the question now occurs on approving H.R.
4139 3628. All -- a roll call has been requested, and the clerk
4140 will call the roll.

4141 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

4142 *Mr. Latta. Aye.

4143 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.
4144 Mr. Griffith?
4145 *Mr. Griffith. Aye.
4146 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.
4147 Mr. Bilirakis?
4148 *Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.
4149 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.
4150 Mr. Hudson?
4151 [No response.]
4152 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter?
4153 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.
4154 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.
4155 Mr. Palmer?
4156 [No response.]
4157 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?
4158 *Mr. Dunn. Aye.
4159 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.
4160 Mr. Crenshaw?
4161 *Mr. Crenshaw. Aye.
4162 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.
4163 Mr. Joyce?
4164 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.
4165 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.
4166 Mr. Weber?
4167 *Mr. Weber. Aye.

4168 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.
4169 Mr. Allen?
4170 [No response.]
4171 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson?
4172 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.
4173 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.
4174 Mr. Fulcher?
4175 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is aye.
4176 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.
4177 Mr. Pfluger?
4178 [No response.]
4179 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger?
4180 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.
4181 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.
4182 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
4183 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Aye.
4184 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.
4185 Mrs. Cammack?
4186 [No response.]
4187 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte?
4188 *Mr. Obernolte. Aye.
4189 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes aye.
4190 Mr. James?
4191 *Mr. James. Aye.
4192 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.

4193 Mr. Bentz?
4194 *Mr. Bentz. Aye.
4195 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.
4196 Mrs. Houchin?
4197 *Mrs. Houchin. Aye.
4198 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.
4199 Mr. Fry?
4200 *Mr. Fry. Aye.
4201 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes aye.
4202 Ms. Lee?
4203 [No response.]
4204 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
4205 *Mr. Langworthy. Aye.
4206 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.
4207 Mr. Kean?
4208 *Mr. Kean. Aye.
4209 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes aye.
4210 Mr. Rulli?
4211 *Mr. Rulli. Aye.
4212 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.
4213 Mr. Evans?
4214 *Mr. Evans. Aye.
4215 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes aye.
4216 Mr. Goldman?
4217 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.

4218 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.
4219 Mrs. Fedorchak?
4220 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.
4221 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.
4222 Mr. Pallone?
4223 *Mr. Pallone. No.
4224 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.
4225 Ms. DeGette?
4226 *Ms. DeGette. No.
4227 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.
4228 Ms. Schakowsky?
4229 *Ms. Schakowsky. No.
4230 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.
4231 Ms. Matsui?
4232 [No response.]
4233 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor?
4234 *Ms. Castor. No.
4235 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.
4236 Mr. Tonko?
4237 *Mr. Tonko. No.
4238 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.
4239 Ms. Clarke?
4240 *Ms. Clarke. No.
4241 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.
4242 Mr. Ruiz?

4243 *Mr. Ruiz. No.
4244 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.
4245 Mr. Peters?
4246 *Mr. Peters. No.
4247 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.
4248 Mrs. Dingell?
4249 *Mrs. Dingell. No.
4250 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.
4251 Mr. Veasey?
4252 *Mr. Veasey. No.
4253 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.
4254 Ms. Kelly?
4255 *Ms. Kelly. No.
4256 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.
4257 Ms. Barragan?
4258 *Ms. Barragan. No.
4259 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.
4260 Mr. Soto?
4261 *Mr. Soto. No.
4262 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.
4263 Ms. Schrier?
4264 *Ms. Schrier. No.
4265 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.
4266 Mrs. Trahan?
4267 *Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.

4268 [Laughter.]
4269 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.
4270 Mrs. Fletcher?
4271 *Mrs. Fletcher. No.
4272 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.
4273 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
4274 [No response.]
4275 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
4276 *Mr. Auchincloss. No.
4277 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes no.
4278 Mr. Carter?
4279 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. No.
4280 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.
4281 Mr. Menendez?
4282 *Mr. Menendez. No.
4283 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes no.
4284 Mr. Mullin?
4285 *Mr. Mullin. No.
4286 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.
4287 Mr. Landsman?
4288 [No response.]
4289 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman?
4290 *Mr. Landsman. No.
4291 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes no.
4292 Ms. McClellan?

4293 *Ms. McClellan. No.

4294 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes no.

4295 Chairman Guthrie?

4296 *The Chair. Aye.

4297 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.

4298 *Mr. Joyce. [Presiding.] How is Mr. Hudson recorded?

4299 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson is not recorded.

4300 *Mr. Hudson. Aye.

4301 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

4302 *Mr. Joyce. Did Mr. Latta vote?

4303 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta is recorded as aye.

4304 *Mr. Joyce. How is Ms. Matsui recorded?

4305 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui is not recorded.

4306 *Ms. Matsui. No.

4307 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.

4308 *Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report.

4309 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce, on that vote there were 25 ayes

4310 and 23 noes.

4311 *Mr. Joyce. The ayes have it.

4312 The chair calls up H.R. 3657, and asks the clerk to

4313 report.

4314 *The Clerk. H.R. 3657, a bill to amend the Federal

4315 Power Act to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

4316 to annually submit to Congress --

4317 *Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the first reading of the

4318 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for
4319 amendment at any point.

4320 So ordered.

4321 [The bill follows:]

4322

4323 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

4324

4325 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone seek recognition?

4326 The gentlelady from Washington, Dr. Schrier, is
4327 recognized.

4328 *Ms. Schrier. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have an
4329 amendment, an ANS, at the desk titled
4330 ANS_relicensingstatusreport_01.

4331 *Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report.

4332 *The Clerk. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to
4333 H.R. 3657, offered by Ms. Schrier. Strike all after the
4334 enacting clause, and insert the following. Section 1, short
4335 title. This act may be cited as the Hydropower Licensing
4336 Transparency Act. Section 2, annual licensing --

4337 *Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the reading of the
4338 amendment is dispensed with.

4339 [The amendment of Ms. Schrier follows:]

4340

4341 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

4342

4343 *Mr. Joyce. And the gentlelady is recognized for five
4344 minutes in support of her amendment.

4345 *Ms. Schrier. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4346 As a member of this committee from the Pacific
4347 Northwest, where hydropower makes up the majority of our
4348 energy mix, I am very proud to lead this effort to enhance
4349 transparency and help streamline the non-Federal hydropower
4350 licensing process with my colleague from Idaho,
4351 Representative Fulcher.

4352 This bill will support the proper permitting of clean,
4353 abundant, affordable energy by allowing Congress, tribes,
4354 resource agencies, and ratepayers to better track the status
4355 of the licensing process for new and existing hydropower
4356 license applications.

4357 Every 30 to 50 years, hydropower dams must re-license
4358 their dams with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or
4359 FERC, in order to continue operating a facility. And
4360 hydropower dams in my district are critical to keeping the
4361 lights on and the power flowing. And several, including the
4362 Rock Island Dam at Chelan County PUD, are due for relicensing
4363 at the end of 2028.

4364 Now, this relicensing process is typically very lengthy,
4365 in part for a good reason. The public comment period needs
4366 to be robust for all parties to weigh in. Without that
4367 input, we risk potentially devastating environmental

4368 consequences on regional ecosystems.

4369 Now, with relicensing activities set to double in the
4370 coming decade, and the process typically taking 7 to 10 years
4371 to complete, there are crucial reforms needed to cut red tape
4372 without compromising this careful consideration. Otherwise,
4373 we could risk not having affordable, accessible power when we
4374 need it.

4375 So this amendment that I am introducing adds new
4376 licenses to the annual reporting, which are the most
4377 sensitive to licensing costs and delays. Existing projects
4378 have a revenue stream to pull from that allows the licensee
4379 to fund these processes, but new projects are completely
4380 sourced by developers. So this common-sense, bipartisan bill
4381 takes the first step by enhancing transparency and tracking
4382 progress on any given relicensing process for all parties
4383 involved.

4384 I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues
4385 on comprehensive, bipartisan relicensing reform, and I urge
4386 my colleagues to support this amendment.

4387 I yield back.

4388 *Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. Is there any
4389 additional discussion on the amendment?

4390 *Mr. Fulcher. Mr. Chairman?

4391 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman is recognized.

4392 *Mr. Fulcher. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I rise in

4393 support of the ANS to H.R. 3657 by my colleague,
4394 Representative Schrier of Washington State.

4395 This bill requires the Federal Energy Regulatory
4396 Commission to report annually on the progress it is making on
4397 getting hydropower facilities licensed and re-licensed.

4398 Despite increased demands for reliable and clean energy
4399 like hydro, FERC has not demonstrated an ability to license
4400 and re-license its facilities in a timely manner. For that
4401 reason, more congressional oversight is needed. This bill
4402 will help us address potential obstacles to the licensing
4403 process while streamlining that process.

4404 Mr. Chairman and members, I urge and support passage.
4405 I yield back.

4406 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. Is anyone
4407 additionally -- the gentlelady from Florida is recognized.

4408 *Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I
4409 have an amendment to the amendment in the nature of a
4410 substitute at the desk labeled FC_HR3657_01.

4411 *Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report the amendment to the
4412 amendment.

4413 *The Clerk. Would the gentlelady please repeat that?

4414 *Ms. Castor. FC_HR3657_01.

4415 *The Clerk. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of
4416 a substitute to H.R. 3657 offered by Ms. Castor. Page 1,
4417 line 12, insert "And for each subsequent license" --

4418 *Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the reading of the
4419 amendment, is dispensed with.

4420 [The amendment of Ms. Castor follows:]

4421

4422 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

4423

4424 *Mr. Joyce. And the gentlelady is recognized for five
4425 minutes in support of the amendment to the amendment in the
4426 substitute (sic).

4427 *Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4428 First of all, I want to commend Congresswoman Schrier
4429 and Congressman Fulcher for their bipartisan work on this
4430 bill, which can hopefully help inform conversations about
4431 hydropower licensing.

4432 I also want to thank Chairman Guthrie's professional
4433 staff who have been able to work together with us in a
4434 bipartisan way on this bill. I just wish we were able to
4435 work together on more things in a bipartisan fashion as we
4436 move forward.

4437 My amendment simply makes technical and conforming
4438 changes to Representative Schrier's amendment based on
4439 technical assistance from the Federal Energy Regulatory
4440 Commission to make sure that the report required by the bill
4441 would catch smaller hydropower dams undergoing the re-
4442 licensing process and dams operated by tribal nations. I
4443 urge support of this amendment, and hope we can voice vote it
4444 unanimously.

4445 I yield back the balance of my time.

4446 *Mr. Joyce. Is there any further discussion?

4447 Seeing none, the vote occurs on the amendment.

4448 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

4449 All those opposed, nay.

4450 The ayes have it. The vote will now occur on the
4451 amendment in the substitute.

4452 All those in favor of the amendment in the nature of the
4453 substitute will respond by saying aye.

4454 All those opposed, nay.

4455 The ayes have it, and the amendment is agreed upon.

4456 The question now occurs on approving H.R. 3657, as
4457 amended.

4458 All those in favor say aye.

4459 *Mr. Pallone. You want a roll call?

4460 A roll call --

4461 *Mr. Joyce. A roll call has been requested. The clerk
4462 will call the roll.

4463 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

4464 *Mr. Latta. Aye.

4465 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

4466 Mr. Griffith?

4467 *Mr. Griffith. Aye.

4468 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

4469 Mr. Bilirakis?

4470 [No response.]

4471 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?

4472 [No response.]

4473 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter?

4474 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.
4475 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.
4476 Mr. Palmer?
4477 [No response.]
4478 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?
4479 *Mr. Dunn. Aye.
4480 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.
4481 Mr. Crenshaw?
4482 [No response.]
4483 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce?
4484 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.
4485 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.
4486 Mr. Weber?
4487 *Mr. Weber. Aye.
4488 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.
4489 Mr. Allen?
4490 *Mr. Allen. Aye.
4491 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.
4492 Mr. Balderson?
4493 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.
4494 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.
4495 Mr. Fulcher?
4496 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is aye.
4497 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.
4498 Mr. Pfluger?

4499 [No response.]
4500 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger?
4501 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.
4502 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.
4503 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
4504 [No response.]
4505 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack?
4506 *Mrs. Cammack. Aye.
4507 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.
4508 Mr. Obernolte?
4509 *Mr. Obernolte. Aye.
4510 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes aye.
4511 Mr. James?
4512 *Mr. James. Aye.
4513 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.
4514 Mr. Bentz?
4515 [No response.]
4516 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin?
4517 *Mrs. Houchin. Aye.
4518 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.
4519 Mr. Fry?
4520 *Mr. Fry. Aye.
4521 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes aye.
4522 Ms. Lee?
4523 [No response.]

4524 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
4525 *Mr. Langworthy. Aye.
4526 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.
4527 Mr. Kean?
4528 *Mr. Kean. Aye.
4529 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes aye.
4530 Mr. Rulli?
4531 *Mr. Rulli. Aye.
4532 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.
4533 Mr. Evans?
4534 *Mr. Evans. Aye.
4535 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes aye.
4536 Mr. Goldman?
4537 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.
4538 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.
4539 Mrs. Fedorchak?
4540 [No response.]
4541 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone?
4542 *Mr. Pallone. Aye.
4543 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.
4544 Ms. DeGette?
4545 *Ms. DeGette. Aye.
4546 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.
4547 Ms. Schakowsky?
4548 *Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.

4549 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.
4550 Ms. Matsui?
4551 *Ms. Matsui. Aye.
4552 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.
4553 Ms. Castor?
4554 *Ms. Castor. Aye.
4555 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.
4556 Mr. Tonko?
4557 *Mr. Tonko. Aye.
4558 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.
4559 Ms. Clarke?
4560 *Ms. Clarke. Aye.
4561 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.
4562 Mr. Ruiz?
4563 *Mr. Ruiz. Aye.
4564 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.
4565 Mr. Peters?
4566 *Mr. Peters. Aye.
4567 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.
4568 Mrs. Dingell?
4569 *Mrs. Dingell. Aye.
4570 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.
4571 Mr. Veasey?
4572 *Mr. Veasey. Aye.
4573 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.

4574 Ms. Kelly?
4575 *Ms. Kelly. Aye.
4576 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.
4577 Ms. Barragan?
4578 *Ms. Barragan. Aye.
4579 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.
4580 Mr. Soto?
4581 *Mr. Soto. Aye.
4582 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.
4583 Ms. Schrier?
4584 *Ms. Schrier. Aye.
4585 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.
4586 Mrs. Trahan?
4587 *Mrs. Trahan. Aye.
4588 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.
4589 Mrs. Fletcher?
4590 *Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.
4591 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.
4592 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
4593 [No response.]
4594 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
4595 *Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.
4596 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.
4597 Mr. Carter?
4598 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.

4599 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.
4600 Mr. Menendez?
4601 *Mr. Menendez. Aye.
4602 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.
4603 Mr. Mullin?
4604 *Mr. Mullin. Aye.
4605 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.
4606 Mr. Landsman?
4607 *Mr. Landsman. Aye.
4608 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.
4609 Ms. McClellan?
4610 *Ms. McClellan. Aye.
4611 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.
4612 Chairman Guthrie?
4613 *The Chair. No -- aye. Aye.
4614 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.
4615 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Hudson recorded?
4616 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson is not recorded.
4617 *Mr. Hudson. Hudson votes aye.
4618 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.
4619 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mrs. Fedorchak recorded?
4620 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak is not recorded.
4621 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.
4622 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.
4623 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Crenshaw recorded?

4624 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw is not recorded.

4625 *Mr. Crenshaw. Aye.

4626 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

4627 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone else wish to be recorded?

4628 The clerk will report.

4629 *Voice. How are you doing?

4630 *Mr. Pallone. Not too good.

4631 [Pause.]

4632 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce, on that vote there are 47 ayes
4633 and 0 noes.

4634 *Mr. Joyce. The ayes have it, and the bill is adopted.

4635 The chair calls up H.R. 3015, and asks the clerk to
4636 report.

4637 *The Clerk. H.R. 3015, a bill to establish the National
4638 Coal Council in the Department of Energy to provide advice
4639 and recommendations to the Secretary of Energy on matters
4640 related to coal and the coal industry.

4641 *Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the first reading of the
4642 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for
4643 amendment at any point.

4644 So ordered.

4645 [The bill follows:]

4646

4647 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

4648

4649 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the
4650 bill?

4651 *Mr. Rulli. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last
4652 word.

4653 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman is recognized.

4654 *Mr. Rulli. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I sit here in
4655 support of H.R. 301 (sic). This is a bill that is going to
4656 save the coal industry, and it is going to help protect the
4657 American grid.

4658 Coal is crucial for U.S. energy security. Previous
4659 administrations have stood by coal. The previous
4660 administration, however, waged a war against coal, harming
4661 our grid and putting us at jeopardy, putting thousands of
4662 jobs at stake, raising energy costs for millions of
4663 Americans. We saw this in Ohio 6th with the closure of the
4664 Sammis plant. We had 600 people go out of work. The grid
4665 was in jeopardy. Coal plants were affected by this last
4666 administration's move. The Biden Administration went so far
4667 as reworking the National Coal Council to fit a radical Green
4668 New Deal agendas before killing it completely.

4669 President Trump and the Department of Energy have called
4670 for the re-establishment of the National Coal Council to help
4671 unleash American energy. The DoE officially re-established
4672 the National Coal Council on June 16, but H.R. 3015 is needed
4673 to ensure that the National Coal Council is set into law.

4674 The National Coal Council will cement American energy
4675 dominance, increase domestic production, improve conditions
4676 for workers, strengthen industrial base, support thousands of
4677 jobs.

4678 When all we have to do is when we look at the opposition
4679 party and we see a philosophical change where we are actually
4680 going to support countries like Russia and Germany and China
4681 and India, where they are building brand new coal plants
4682 every single month, and these coal plants are not to the EPA
4683 standards that we are used to in the United States of
4684 America. So, for the love of God, let's protect the coal
4685 industry and let's move forward.

4686 It was only three Christmases ago that we were within
4687 two hours of the entire American grid melting down. We saw
4688 this. And we have to protect coal. We have to make sure
4689 that when the grid needs more and they call up these power
4690 plants to give it everything they got, that the coal industry
4691 is still online.

4692 And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

4693 *Mr. Joyce. Are there any amendments to be -- Mr.
4694 Pallone is recognized.

4695 *Mr. Pallone. I have an amendment, Mr. Chairman, at the
4696 desk labeled FC_HR3015_28.

4697 *Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report the amendment.

4698 *The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 3015 offered by Mr.

4699 Pallone. At the end, insert the following. C, Limitation.
4700 This act shall not take effect if the Secretary of Energy has
4701 published --

4702 *Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the reading of the
4703 amendment is dispensed with.

4704 [The amendment of Mr. Pallone follows:]

4705

4706 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

4707

4708 *Mr. Joyce. And the gentleman is recognized for five
4709 minutes in support of his amendment.

4710 *Mr. Pallone. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4711 I appreciate the sponsor's enthusiasm that I just heard,
4712 but, I mean, the bottom line is that exactly one week ago the
4713 Department of Energy noticed in the Federal Register that it
4714 was bringing back the National Coal Council. I don't know if
4715 we just -- you know, you guys just missed the notice, Mr.
4716 Chairman, but DoE wrote a letter to Chairman Guthrie.

4717 I have got it right here. I would ask unanimous consent
4718 that it be introduced into the record, and it makes -- is
4719 that okay?

4720 *Mr. Joyce. Yes, so ordered.

4721 [The information follows:]

4722

4723 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

4724

4725 *Mr. Pallone. Okay. I mean, the letter makes clear
4726 that the DoE has reestablished the National Coal Council and
4727 has issued it a new charter.

4728 Well, I mean, you would think that would be it, we don't
4729 need to do this bill because it has already happened. But
4730 just in case the Republicans aren't willing to do that and
4731 want to move on with this bill, which is totally unnecessary,
4732 my amendment would make clear, because that -- why we don't
4733 need to keep talking about it, but if you want to, the
4734 amendment would ensure that the bill doesn't go into effect
4735 if DoE has published a notice that it is re-establishing the
4736 Coal Council in the last year, which it has. So I don't know
4737 why we are doing this, other than from, I guess, a message
4738 point of view.

4739 Now, if somebody is going to say that this bill is
4740 necessary so that a future president can't shut down the Coal
4741 Council in the future, I mean, the bill doesn't do that, but
4742 let's say they do, all advisory councils are subject to a
4743 two-year lifespan. That is the law. So if you really wanted
4744 to make it beyond the two years, you would have to change the
4745 law to say that, you know, these advisory councils are
4746 permanent. But right now, the bill accomplishes nothing
4747 because the Coal Council is back in, it is in for the rest of
4748 the two-year term, and the gentleman's bill doesn't make it
4749 permanent, so I don't know why we are even doing the bill.

4750 But in any case, let me get to the larger point, that I
4751 think it is kind of crazy that we are here talking about the
4752 National Coal Council during a week when grid operators up
4753 and down the East Coast are desperate for any source of
4754 electricity they can find. Marginal power prices reached
4755 well over \$1,000 per megawatt hour multiple times yesterday
4756 in PJM, the power market that we are sitting in right now.

4757 And coincidentally, PJM has extraordinarily little solar
4758 energy on its grid, a vanishingly small amount. Every power
4759 plant of any sort that could have been built would have been
4760 tremendously useful this week, but Republicans don't want to
4761 talk about how to connect more power plants to the grid. If
4762 they did, they would have marked up Ranking Member Castor's
4763 bill to speed the interconnection process. They just want to
4764 talk about expensive natural gas and coal plants.

4765 You know what else would have been useful? Offshore
4766 wind would have been very useful. But Republicans are dead
4767 set on banning it for reasons that even the Secretary of
4768 Energy struggled to defend when he was here two weeks ago.

4769 So our committee is in charge of energy policy, but
4770 Republicans are sitting here debating how to add more fossil
4771 fuels to the grid while our constituents and communities are
4772 overheating and struggling to cool their homes. And we
4773 should be talking about what we can do to bring any sort of
4774 relief for reliability and for affordability for our

4775 constituents. But instead, we are talking about bringing
4776 back the National Coal Council, which has already been
4777 brought back. I think it is absurd, and I hope everyone
4778 notices, you know, what Republicans are prioritizing.

4779 And so I urge members to support my amendment, and I
4780 yield back, Mr. Chairman.

4781 *Mr. Joyce. Is there any additional discussion on the
4782 amendment?

4783 *Ms. Matsui. Mr. Chairman?

4784 *Mr. Rulli. Mr. Chairman, I seek to --

4785 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman from Ohio is recognized.

4786 *Mr. Rulli. Mr. Chairman, I seek to be recognized to
4787 strike the last word in opposition to this amendment.

4788 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman is recognized.

4789 *Mr. Rulli. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4790 Let's start off. Let's refer to my good friends at
4791 Greenpeace who are -- adamantly are opposed to offshore
4792 windmills because they kill the whales.

4793 And also, the first day of President Biden's
4794 Administration, he shut down one of the most crucial
4795 pipelines in the country. So there is a reason why we have
4796 to have things permanent into law.

4797 This amendment would essentially nullify the underlying
4798 legislation by stating it cannot take -- by stating it cannot
4799 go into effect if the DoE has re-established the Coal Council

4800 within a year prior to the date of enactment, which the Trump
4801 DoE has done. My legislation makes the Coal Council
4802 permanent by removing a requirement that the Council re-
4803 charters every two years. It rightfully codifies the Council
4804 to provide long-term certainty and expertise to all
4805 administrations that come in the future.

4806 The National Coal Council should be permanent, and not
4807 subject to any political whims of any executive branches in
4808 the future. I urge all my colleagues for a no vote on this
4809 amendment.

4810 And I yield back.

4811 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The gentlelady from
4812 California is recognized.

4813 *Ms. Matsui. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike
4814 the last word and speak in support of the amendment.

4815 *Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady is recognized.

4816 *Ms. Matsui. Let's be honest. This whole markup is a
4817 love affair, a love letter to fossil fuels.

4818 My Republican colleagues like to dress up their
4819 intentions in phrases like "energy security and
4820 reliability," but this is all cover for a backward obsession
4821 with dirty fossil fuels and an irrational hatred of clean
4822 energy. My colleagues like to cite NERC's Summer Reliability
4823 Assessment to claim we are facing a reliability crisis driven
4824 by renewables. But the truth is that is not what the 2025

4825 Summer Reliability Assessment says.

4826 California leads the country in clean energy
4827 development, but NERC gives California high marks for having
4828 sufficient energy reserves. Rather, it is Texas, the
4829 Midwest, and the plains states that are unprepared to meet
4830 the summer energy demand. In fact, NERC says batteries are
4831 saving Texas's grid. I quote: "Lower risk is attributed to
4832 a near doubling of battery energy storage capacity and
4833 improved energy availability from new battery storage and
4834 operational rules."

4835 In fact, across the country, NERC expects new solar and
4836 battery resources additions to provide over 35 gigawatts in
4837 peak capacity this summer. Let that sink in. Solar and
4838 batteries are driving an increase in peak capacity of the
4839 grid. Batteries have reduced the likelihood of a grid
4840 emergency in Texas by 12 percent since last year. Renewables
4841 are helping improve reliability. Renewables are meeting
4842 rising energy demand.

4843 So let's be honest, this isn't about reliability. It is
4844 about favoring fossil fuels over renewables. It is the same
4845 old politics, the same old climate denialism, the same old
4846 irrational hatred of clean energy. It is time to leave that
4847 in the past and build cleaner, cheaper, reliable energy.

4848 And with that I yield back.

4849 *Ms. Barragan. Will the gentlewoman --

4850 *Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields.

4851 *Ms. Barragan. -- yield? Will you yield?

4852 *Ms. Matsui. Yes, I yield to the gentlelady.

4853 *Ms. Barragan. Thank you. I thought I heard my
4854 colleague cite to Greenpeace. Can I ask if you -- if that
4855 was accurate, was it Greenpeace?

4856 *Mr. Rulli. Yes, Greenpeace actually --

4857 *Ms. Barragan. Okay.

4858 *Mr. Rulli. -- sent the boats out on Cape Cod. I have
4859 the videos --

4860 *Ms. Barragan. Okay.

4861 *Mr. Rulli. -- we could meet after the --

4862 *Ms. Barragan. Okay, thank you. I just wanted to --

4863 *Mr. Rulli. -- meeting and talk about that.

4864 *Ms. Barragan. I just wanted to confirm.

4865 *Mr. Rulli. Greenpeace.

4866 *Ms. Barragan. Greenpeace, because I heard Greenpeace.

4867 *Mr. Rulli. Greenpeace.

4868 *Ms. Barragan. Just -- I want to just, for the
4869 record --

4870 *Mr. Rulli. Save the whales.

4871 *Ms. Barragan. I just want to, for the record, and in
4872 fairness to Greenpeace, tell you all what Greenpeace thinks
4873 about coal, okay? They don't support coal, so they wouldn't
4874 support this. And so to use Greenpeace to say, oh, well,

4875 Greenpeace doesn't support this, the subject of this
4876 amendment is coal, which is one of the dirtiest sources of
4877 energy we have. And we know that it impacts low-income
4878 communities and communities of color -- paid the price for
4879 coal pollution. They have done that for decades, okay, with
4880 higher rates of asthma, heart disease, and early death. So
4881 if you are going to cite to Greenpeace, why don't we fairly
4882 cite to their position on the underlying bill, which is coal,
4883 which they don't support and know that it pollutes the air.

4884 The other thing that was raised was cost, costs on
4885 consumers, yet this is the same party that is about to pass a
4886 reconciliation bill that is going to raise costs for
4887 consumers and households because they are taking away all
4888 these clean energy tax credits.

4889 So I support the amendment. I think it is duplicative,
4890 and I think that the citation to Greenpeace was not in
4891 fairness. They also would, I think, support the elimination
4892 of coal and moving away from that. But in this -- with this
4893 amendment -- rather with this Council, it has already been
4894 done. There is really no need. It is completely
4895 duplicative, and it ignores coal's harmful public health
4896 impacts.

4897 With that I yield back to the gentlewoman.

4898 *Ms. Matsui. I yield back.

4899 *Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. Is there any

4900 additional discussion on the amendment?

4901 Seeing none --

4902 *Mr. Pallone. I would ask for a roll call.

4903 *Mr. Joyce. A roll call has been requested, and the

4904 clerk will call the roll.

4905 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

4906 *Mr. Latta. No.

4907 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.

4908 Mr. Griffith?

4909 *Mr. Griffith. No.

4910 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.

4911 Mr. Bilirakis?

4912 [No response.]

4913 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?

4914 *Mr. Hudson. No.

4915 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.

4916 Mr. Carter of Georgia?

4917 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. No.

4918 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes no.

4919 Mr. Palmer?

4920 [No response.]

4921 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?

4922 [No response.]

4923 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw?

4924 *Mr. Crenshaw. No.

4925 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.
4926 Mr. Joyce?
4927 *Mr. Joyce. No.
4928 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.
4929 Mr. Weber?
4930 *Mr. Weber. No.
4931 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes no.
4932 Mr. Allen?
4933 *Mr. Allen. No.
4934 [Laughter.]
4935 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes no.
4936 Mr. Balderson?
4937 *Mr. Balderson. No.
4938 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes no.
4939 Mr. Fulcher?
4940 [No response.]
4941 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger?
4942 *Mr. Pfluger. No.
4943 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes no.
4944 Mrs. Harshbarger?
4945 *Mrs. Harshbarger. No.
4946 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.
4947 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
4948 [No response.]
4949 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack?

4950 *Mrs. Cammack. No.
4951 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes no.
4952 Mr. Oubernolte?
4953 *Mr. Oubernolte. No.
4954 *The Clerk. Mr. Oubernolte votes no.
4955 Mr. James?
4956 *Mr. James. No.
4957 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes no.
4958 Mr. Bentz?
4959 [No response.]
4960 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin?
4961 *Mrs. Houchin. No.
4962 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes no.
4963 Mr. Fry?
4964 *Mr. Fry. No.
4965 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes no.
4966 Ms. Lee?
4967 [No response.]
4968 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
4969 *Mr. Langworthy. No.
4970 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes no.
4971 Mr. Kean?
4972 *Mr. Kean. No.
4973 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes no.
4974 Mr. Rulli?

4975 *Mr. Rulli. No.
4976 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes no.
4977 Mr. Evans?
4978 [No response.]
4979 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman?
4980 *Mr. Goldman. No.
4981 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes no.
4982 Mrs. Fedorchak?
4983 *Mrs. Fedorchak. No.
4984 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.
4985 Mr. Pallone?
4986 *Mr. Pallone. Aye.
4987 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.
4988 Ms. DeGette?
4989 *Ms. DeGette. Aye.
4990 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.
4991 Ms. Schakowsky?
4992 *Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.
4993 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.
4994 Ms. Matsui?
4995 *Ms. Matsui. Aye.
4996 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.
4997 Ms. Castor?
4998 *Ms. Castor. Aye.
4999 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.

5000 Mr. Tonko?

5001 *Mr. Tonko. Aye.

5002 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.

5003 Ms. Clarke?

5004 *Ms. Clarke. Aye.

5005 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.

5006 Mr. Ruiz?

5007 *Mr. Ruiz. Aye.

5008 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.

5009 Mr. Peters?

5010 *Mr. Peters. Aye.

5011 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.

5012 Mrs. Dingell?

5013 [No response.]

5014 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey?

5015 *Mr. Veasey. Aye.

5016 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.

5017 Ms. Kelly?

5018 *Ms. Kelly. Aye.

5019 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.

5020 Ms. Barragan?

5021 *Ms. Barragan. Aye.

5022 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.

5023 Mr. Soto?

5024 [No response.]

5025

5026 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier?

5027 *Ms. Schrier. Aye.

5028 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.

5029 Mrs. Trahan?

5030 *Mrs. Trahan. Aye.

5031 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.

5032 Mrs. Fletcher?

5033 *Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.

5034 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.

5035 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?

5036 [No response.]

5037 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?

5038 *Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.

5039 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.

5040 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?

5041 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.

5042 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.

5043 Mr. Menendez?

5044 *Mr. Menendez. Aye.

5045 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.

5046 Mr. Mullin?

5047 *Mr. Mullin. Aye.

5048 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.

5049 Mr. Landsman?

5050 *Mr. Landsman. Aye.

5051 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.

5052 Ms. McClellan?

5053 *Ms. McClellan. Aye.

5054 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.

5055 Chairman Guthrie?

5056 *The Chair. No.

5057 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes no.

5058 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Miller-Meeks?

5059 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks is not recorded.

5060 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. No.

5061 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Dunn --

5062 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes no.

5063 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Dunn reported?

5064 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn is not recorded.

5065 *Mr. Dunn. No.

5066 *Mr. Joyce. How is --

5067 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.

5068 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Bilirakis reported?

5069 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis is not recorded.

5070 *Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes no.

5071 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes no.

5072 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Fulcher reported?

5073 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher is not recorded.

5074 [Pause.]

5075 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone else wish to be recognized?

5076 Mr. Carter?

5077 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia is recorded as no.

5078 *Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report the result.

5079 *The Clerk. Mr. Chairman, on that vote there were 21
5080 ayes and 25 noes.

5081 *Mr. Joyce. The amendment is not agreed to. Are there
5082 any further amendments?

5083 *Mr. Pallone. Yes, we will ask for roll call for the
5084 final.

5085 *Mr. Joyce. Seeing none, the question now occurs on
5086 approving H.R. 3015. A roll call vote has been requested.
5087 The clerk will call the roll.

5088 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

5089 *Mr. Latta. Aye.

5090 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

5091 Mr. Griffith?

5092 *Mr. Griffith. Aye.

5093 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

5094 Mr. Bilirakis?

5095 *Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.

5096 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

5097 Mr. Hudson?

5098 *Mr. Hudson. Aye.

5099 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

5100 Mr. Carter of Georgia?

5101 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.

5102 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.

5103 Mr. Palmer?

5104 [No response.]

5105 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn?

5106 *Mr. Dunn. Aye.

5107 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.

5108 Mr. Crenshaw?

5109 *Mr. Crenshaw. Aye.

5110 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

5111 Mr. Joyce?

5112 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.

5113 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.

5114 Mr. Weber?

5115 *Mr. Weber. Yes, buddy.

5116 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.

5117 Mr. Allen?

5118 *Mr. Allen. Aye.

5119 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.

5120 Mr. Balderson?

5121 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.

5122 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.

5123 Mr. Fulcher?

5124 [No response.]

5125 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger?
5126 *Mr. Pfluger. Aye.
5127 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes aye.
5128 Mrs. Harshbarger?
5129 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.
5130 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.
5131 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
5132 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Aye.
5133 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.
5134 Mrs. Cammack?
5135 *Mrs. Cammack. Aye.
5136 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.
5137 Mr. Obernolte?
5138 *Mr. Obernolte. Aye.
5139 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes aye.
5140 Mr. James?
5141 *Mr. James. Aye.
5142 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.
5143 Mr. Bentz?
5144 [No response.]
5145 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin?
5146 *Mrs. Houchin. Aye.
5147 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.
5148 Mr. Fry?
5149 *Mr. Fry. Aye.

5150 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes aye.
5151 Ms. Lee?
5152 [No response.]
5153 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
5154 *Mr. Langworthy. Aye.
5155 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.
5156 Mr. Kean?
5157 [No response.]
5158 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli?
5159 *Mr. Rulli. Aye.
5160 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.
5161 Mr. Evans?
5162 [No response.]
5163 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman?
5164 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.
5165 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.
5166 Mrs. Fedorchak?
5167 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.
5168 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.
5169 Mr. Pallone?
5170 *Mr. Pallone. No.
5171 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.
5172 Ms. DeGette?
5173 *Ms. DeGette. No.
5174 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.

5175 Ms. Schakowsky?
5176 *Ms. Schakowsky. No.
5177 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.
5178 Ms. Matsui?
5179 *Ms. Matsui. No.
5180 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.
5181 Ms. Castor?
5182 *Ms. Castor. No.
5183 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.
5184 Mr. Tonko?
5185 *Mr. Tonko. No.
5186 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.
5187 Ms. Clarke?
5188 *Ms. Clarke. No.
5189 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.
5190 Mr. Ruiz?
5191 *Mr. Ruiz. No.
5192 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.
5193 Mr. Peters?
5194 *Mr. Peters. No.
5195 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.
5196 Mrs. Dingell?
5197 *Mrs. Dingell. No.
5198 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.
5199 Mr. Veasey?

5200 [No response.]

5201 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly?

5202 [No response.]

5203 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan?

5204 *Ms. Kelly. No.

5205 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.

5206 Ms. Barragan?

5207 [No response.]

5208 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto?

5209 [No response.]

5210 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier?

5211 *Ms. Schrier. No.

5212 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.

5213 Mrs. Trahan?

5214 *Mrs. Trahan. No.

5215 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.

5216 Mrs. Fletcher?

5217 *Mrs. Fletcher. No.

5218 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.

5219 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?

5220 [No response.]

5221 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?

5222 *Mr. Auchincloss. No.

5223 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes no.

5224 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?

5225 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. No.

5226 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes no.

5227 Mr. Menendez?

5228 *Mr. Menendez. No.

5229 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes no.

5230 Mr. Mullin?

5231 *Mr. Mullin. No.

5232 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.

5233 Mr. Landsman?

5234 *Mr. Landsman. No.

5235 *The Clerk. Ms. Landsman votes no.

5236 Ms. McClellan?

5237 *Ms. McClellan. No.

5238 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes no.

5239 Chairman Guthrie?

5240 *The Chair. Aye.

5241 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.

5242 *Mr. Kean. How am I --

5243 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean is not recorded.

5244 *Mr. Kean. Aye.

5245 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes aye.

5246 *Mr. Veasey. Chairman, how am I recorded?

5247 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey is not recorded.

5248 *Mr. Veasey. No.

5249 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.

5250 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone else wish to be recorded?

5251 The clerk will --

5252 [Audio malfunction.]

5253 *The Clerk. Mr. Chairman, on that vote there are 25
5254 ayes and 20 noes.

5255 *Mr. Joyce. The amendment is adopted.

5256 The chair calls up H.R. 3617, and asks the clerk to
5257 report. I am -- the bill is adopted. The chair now calls up
5258 H.R. 3617, and asks the clerk to report.

5259 *The Clerk. H.R. 3617, a bill to amend the Department
5260 of Energy Organization Act to secure the supply --

5261 *Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the first reading of the
5262 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for
5263 amendment at any point.

5264 So ordered.

5265 [The bill follows:]

5266

5267 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

5268

5269 *Mr. Joyce. The chair has an amendment in the nature of
5270 a substitute at the desk. The clerk will report the
5271 amendment.

5272 *The Clerk. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to
5273 H.R. 3617 offered by Mr. Joyce. Strike all after the
5274 enacting clause, and insert the following.

5275 *Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the reading the
5276 amendment is dispensed with.

5277 [The amendment of Mr. Joyce follows:]

5278

5279 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

5280

5281 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the
5282 amendment of the ANS?

5283 Mr. James is recognized.

5284 *Mr. James. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have an
5285 amendment at the desk, 118HR1068, amendment in the nature of
5286 a substitute.

5287 Today we have an opportunity to advance a bold,
5288 transformative vision for our nation's energy future through
5289 my Securing America's Critical Minerals Supply Act. This
5290 bill is a bold step toward ensuring the United States leads
5291 energy innovation, security, and independence.

5292 The Securing America's Critical Minerals Supply Act
5293 redefines "critical energy resource" to empower the
5294 Department of Energy with a clear mandate to secure the
5295 supply of minerals essential to our energy sector. This is
5296 an important first step to ensure that the Department of
5297 Energy is clearly focused on our country's critical energy
5298 resources.

5299 This bill truly could not come at a more crucial time
5300 for our for our country. Adversaries such as China currently
5301 control over 80 percent of global rare Earth refining
5302 capacity, and Russia has about 44 percent of the world's
5303 uranium enrichment capacity, supplying some 35 percent of
5304 U.S. imports for nuclear fuel. According to the Department
5305 of Energy, if we are serious about having an all-of-the-above

5306 energy approach, we must find a way to produce these critical
5307 energy minerals domestically. My bill puts us one step
5308 closer to doing that.

5309 My legislation directs the DoE to conduct ongoing
5310 assessments of supply chain vulnerabilities, develop
5311 strategies to strengthen domestic production, and invest in
5312 innovative technologies. It equips our nation to counter
5313 anti-competitive tactics and human rights abuses in global
5314 markets, ensuring America's energy systems are resilient,
5315 self-reliant, and humane.

5316 This is about unleashing American energy, powering our
5317 factories, fueling innovation, and securing our future. The
5318 Securing America's Critical Minerals Supply Act is a
5319 cornerstone for reshoring manufacturing, reducing dependence
5320 on foreign dictators and despots, and building an energy-
5321 independent America. I urge my colleagues to support this
5322 bill and unleash the full potential of American energy.

5323 With that I yield Mr. Chairman.

5324 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The gentleman from
5325 California is recognized.

5326 *Mr. Ruiz. Yes, sir. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5327 I want to emphasize a very simple truth. If we are
5328 serious about securing America's energy future, then we must
5329 be serious about securing our critical minerals supply chain.
5330 These minerals, like lithium, cobalt, and nickel, are the

5331 building blocks of our modern economy. They power the
5332 batteries in our electric vehicles, stabilize our grid
5333 through energy storage, and support everything from cell
5334 phones to national defense systems.

5335 In my district in southern California, we sit on top of
5336 one of the largest untapped lithium reserves in North
5337 America, right in the heart of Imperial County's lithium
5338 valley. This is an opportunity not just to meet global
5339 demand, but to do it the right way, creating good-paying
5340 jobs, boosting local economies, and investing in clean energy
5341 innovation right here at home.

5342 But here is the bottom line: mineral extraction alone
5343 is not enough. If we want to lead the future, we must build,
5344 we must refine, we must manufacture right here in the United
5345 States, and that means making full use of the historic
5346 investments Congress already passed like those in the
5347 Inflation Reduction Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure
5348 Law. These laws are about security. They are about
5349 competitiveness.

5350 The IRA contains billions of dollars to support battery
5351 innovation, domestic processing, and the creation of entire
5352 supply chains, from extraction to production to recycling.
5353 Yet instead of building on this progress, Republicans are
5354 rolling back these very investments. They are trying to
5355 repeal or gut key IRA funding that supports domestic battery

5356 innovation, clean energy tax credits, and American
5357 manufacturing. These cuts would sabotage our momentum, leave
5358 us dependent on adversaries like China, and delay the
5359 benefits that communities like mine are starting to see.

5360 We cannot afford to play politics with our energy
5361 future. So instead of pushing bills like H.R. 3617 which
5362 don't actually invest in critical minerals, and that, in
5363 fact, confuse and dilute DoE's ongoing efforts related to
5364 critical minerals supply chains, the majority should instead
5365 focus on increasing funding for the very programs they are
5366 seeking to shut down. H.R. 3617 doesn't actually strengthen
5367 critical minerals supply chains, and it leaves the door open
5368 for fossil fuels like coal to benefit from efforts to
5369 strengthen critical minerals supply chains, another backdoor
5370 entry for fossil fuel.

5371 If we are serious about strengthening the American
5372 supply chain, we need to defend and expand the tools that
5373 actually make it possible. Let's invest in our future, not
5374 retreat from it.

5375 I oppose the amendment and the bill. I urge a no vote.
5376 Thank you, and I yield back.

5377 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The question now
5378 occurs on approving the amendment in the nature of a
5379 substitute.

5380 All those in favor, say aye.

5381 Those opposed, no.

5382 The ayes have it, and the amendment in the nature of a
5383 substitute is adopted.

5384 The question now occurs on approving H.R. 3617. A roll
5385 call vote has been requested. The clerk will call the roll.

5386 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

5387 *Mr. Latta. Aye.

5388 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

5389 Mr. Griffith?

5390 *Mr. Griffith. Aye.

5391 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

5392 Mr. Bilirakis?

5393 [No response.]

5394 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?

5395 *Mr. Hudson. Aye.

5396 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

5397 Mr. Carter of Georgia?

5398 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.

5399 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.

5400 Mr. Palmer?

5401 *Mr. Palmer. Aye.

5402 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

5403 Mr. Dunn?

5404 *Mr. Dunn. Aye.

5405 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.

5406 Mr. Crenshaw?
5407 [No response.]
5408 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce?
5409 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.
5410 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.
5411 Mr. Weber?
5412 *Mr. Weber. Aye.
5413 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.
5414 Mr. Allen?
5415 *Mr. Allen. Aye.
5416 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.
5417 Mr. Balderson?
5418 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.
5419 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.
5420 Mr. Fulcher?
5421 [No response.]
5422 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger?
5423 *Mr. Pfluger. Aye.
5424 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes aye.
5425 Mrs. Harshbarger?
5426 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.
5427 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.
5428 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
5429 [No response.]
5430 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack?

5431 *Mrs. Cammack. Aye.

5432 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.

5433 Mr. Oubernolte?

5434 *Mr. Oubernolte. Aye.

5435 *The Clerk. Mr. Oubernolte votes aye.

5436 Mr. James?

5437 *Mr. James. Aye.

5438 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.

5439 Mr. Bentz?

5440 [No response.]

5441 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin?

5442 [No response.]

5443 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry?

5444 *Mr. Fry. Aye.

5445 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes aye.

5446 Ms. Lee?

5447 [No response.]

5448 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?

5449 [No response.]

5450 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean?

5451 [No response.]

5452 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli?

5453 *Mr. Rulli. Aye.

5454 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.

5455 Mr. Evans?

5456 *Mr. Evans. Aye.
5457 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes aye.
5458 Mr. Goldman?
5459 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.
5460 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.
5461 Mrs. Fedorchak?
5462 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.
5463 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.
5464 Mr. Pallone?
5465 *Mr. Pallone. No.
5466 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.
5467 Ms. DeGette?
5468 *Ms. DeGette. No.
5469 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.
5470 Ms. Schakowsky?
5471 *Ms. Schakowsky. No.
5472 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.
5473 Ms. Matsui?
5474 *Ms. Matsui. No.
5475 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.
5476 Ms. Castor?
5477 *Ms. Castor. No.
5478 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.
5479 Mr. Tonko?
5480 *Mr. Tonko. No.

5481 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.
5482 Ms. Clarke?
5483 *Ms. Clarke. No.
5484 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.
5485 Mr. Ruiz?
5486 *Mr. Ruiz. No.
5487 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.
5488 Mr. Peters?
5489 *Mr. Peters. No.
5490 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.
5491 Mrs. Dingell?
5492 [No response.]
5493 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey?
5494 *Mr. Veasey. No.
5495 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.
5496 Ms. Kelly?
5497 *Ms. Kelly. No.
5498 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.
5499 Ms. Barragan?
5500 *Ms. Barragan. No.
5501 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.
5502 Mr. Soto?
5503 [No response.]
5504 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier?
5505 *Ms. Schrier. No.

5506 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.
5507 Mrs. Trahan?
5508 *Mrs. Trahan. No.
5509 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.
5510 Mrs. Fletcher?
5511 *Mrs. Fletcher. No.
5512 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.
5513 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
5514 [No response.]
5515 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
5516 *Mr. Auchincloss. No.
5517 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes no.
5518 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?
5519 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. No.
5520 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes no.
5521 Mr. Menendez?
5522 *Mr. Menendez. No.
5523 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes no.
5524 Mr. Mullin?
5525 *Mr. Mullin. No.
5526 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.
5527 Mr. Landsman?
5528 *Mr. Landsman. No.
5529 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes no.
5530 Ms. McClellan?

5531 *Ms. McClellan. No.

5532 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes no.

5533 Chairman Guthrie?

5534 *The Chair. Aye.

5535 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.

5536 *Mr. Joyce. How is the gentlelady from Indiana

5537 reported?

5538 *Mrs. Houchin. Houchin votes aye.

5539 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.

5540 *Mr. Joyce. How is the gentleman from New Jersey

5541 reported?

5542 *The Clerk. The gentleman is not recorded.

5543 *Mr. Pallone. Jersey City --

5544 *Mr. Kean. Aye.

5545 *The Clerk. -- votes aye.

5546 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone else wish to be recorded?

5547 The clerk will report.

5548 *The Clerk. Mr. Chairman, on that vote there were 23

5549 ayes and 21 noes.

5550 *Mr. Joyce. The ayes have it, the bill is adopted.

5551 The chair calls up H.R. 3109, and asks the clerk to

5552 report.

5553 *The Clerk. H.R. 3109, a bill to require the Secretary

5554 of Energy --

5555 *Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the first reading of the

5556 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for
5557 amendment at any point.

5558 So ordered.

5559 [The bill follows:]

5560

5561 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

5562

5563 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone seek to be recognized on --

5564 *Mr. Latta. Mr. Chairman?

5565 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman -- for what purpose does the
5566 gentleman seek recognition?

5567 *Mr. Latta. To strike the last word in support of the
5568 legislation.

5569 *Mr. Joyce. You are recognized for five minutes to
5570 speak on the bill.

5571 *Mr. Latta. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to
5572 speak in support of my legislation, H.R. 3109, the REFINER
5573 Act.

5574 Over the last several years, the United States' refining
5575 capacity has contracted. While some of this -- the capacity
5576 loss has been due to external factors, state and sometimes
5577 Federal policies have made it more and more difficult to
5578 operate within certain jurisdictions. This is not a new
5579 problem. Our nation's last major U.S. refinery was built in
5580 1977, almost 50 years ago. And at this time we need more
5581 refining capacity, not less. Not only has increased -- not
5582 only has this increased the price of the pump during peak
5583 demand seasons, but it has also increased fuel dependency on
5584 non-U.S. sources for areas like the West Coast that are
5585 supply constrained. This increasing dependence runs counter
5586 to the policy goals of this Administration and the needs of
5587 our nation.

5588 My legislation, Researching Efficient Federal
5589 Improvements for Necessary Energy Refining, or REFINER, Act
5590 will help increase energy refining capacity in the United
5591 States. This very simple legislation requires the collection
5592 of critical information, including identifying factors
5593 leading to low refining capacity. With that information the
5594 National Petroleum Council will submit a report to the
5595 Secretary of Energy and Congress presenting recommendations
5596 to expand refining capacity, ensure an abundance of
5597 affordable and reliable energy in the United States.

5598 While I am disappointed that none of my Democratic
5599 colleagues joined me in introducing this legislation or
5600 supporting it through the subcommittee markup, it is
5601 important to note that this bill has been historically been
5602 supported and passed through this committee on a bipartisan
5603 basis.

5604 Simply put, again, we need more refining capacity in
5605 this country, not less, and my legislation helps that effort.
5606 I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

5607 And, Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

5608 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. Is there any
5609 additional discussion on the legislation?

5610 Seeing none, a roll call vote has been requested. The
5611 clerk will call the roll.

5612 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

5613 *Mr. Latta. Aye.
5614 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.
5615 Mr. Griffith?
5616 *Mr. Griffith. Aye.
5617 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.
5618 Mr. Bilirakis?
5619 [No response.]
5620 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?
5621 [No response.]
5622 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia?
5623 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.
5624 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.
5625 Mr. Palmer?
5626 *Mr. Palmer. Aye.
5627 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.
5628 Mr. Dunn?
5629 [No response.]
5630 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw?
5631 [No response.]
5632 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce?
5633 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.
5634 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.
5635 Mr. Weber?
5636 *Mr. Weber. Aye.
5637 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.

5638 Mr. Allen?
5639 *Mr. Allen. Aye.
5640 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.
5641 Mr. Balderson?
5642 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.
5643 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.
5644 Mr. Fulcher?
5645 [No response.]
5646 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger?
5647 *Mr. Pfluger. Aye.
5648 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes aye.
5649 Mrs. Harshbarger?
5650 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.
5651 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.
5652 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
5653 [No response.]
5654 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack?
5655 *Mrs. Cammack. Aye.
5656 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.
5657 Mr. Obernolte?
5658 *Mr. Obernolte. Aye.
5659 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes aye.
5660 Mr. James?
5661 *Mr. James. Aye.
5662 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.

5663 Mr. Bentz?
5664 [No response.]
5665 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin?
5666 [No response.]
5667 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry?
5668 [No response.]
5669 *The Clerk. Ms. Lee?
5670 [No response.]
5671 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
5672 [No response.]
5673 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean?
5674 *Mr. Kean. Aye.
5675 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes aye.
5676 Mr. Rulli?
5677 *Mr. Rulli. Aye.
5678 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.
5679 Mr. Evans?
5680 *Mr. Evans. Aye.
5681 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes aye.
5682 Mr. Goldman?
5683 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.
5684 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.
5685 Mrs. Fedorchak?
5686 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.
5687 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.

5688 Mr. Pallone?
5689 *Mr. Pallone. No.
5690 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.
5691 Ms. DeGette?
5692 *Ms. DeGette. No.
5693 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.
5694 Ms. Schakowsky?
5695 *Ms. Schakowsky. No.
5696 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.
5697 Ms. Matsui?
5698 *Ms. Matsui. No.
5699 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.
5700 Ms. Castor?
5701 *Ms. Castor. No.
5702 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.
5703 Mr. Tonko?
5704 *Mr. Tonko. No.
5705 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.
5706 Ms. Clarke?
5707 *Ms. Clarke. No.
5708 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.
5709 Mr. Ruiz?
5710 [No response.]
5711 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters?
5712 *Mr. Peters. No.

5713 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.
5714 Mrs. Dingell?
5715 *Mrs. Dingell. No.
5716 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.
5717 Mr. Veasey?
5718 *Mr. Veasey. Yes.
5719 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.
5720 Ms. Kelly?
5721 *Ms. Kelly. No.
5722 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.
5723 Ms. Barragan?
5724 *Ms. Barragan. No.
5725 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.
5726 Mr. Soto?
5727 *Mr. Soto. No.
5728 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.
5729 Ms. Schrier?
5730 *Ms. Schrier. No.
5731 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.
5732 Mrs. Trahan?
5733 *Mrs. Trahan. No.
5734 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.
5735 Mrs. Fletcher?
5736 *Mrs. Fletcher. No.
5737 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.

5738 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
5739 [No response.]
5740 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
5741 *Mr. Auchincloss. No.
5742 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes no.
5743 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?
5744 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. No.
5745 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes no.
5746 Mr. Menendez?
5747 *Mr. Menendez. No.
5748 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes no.
5749 Mr. Mullin?
5750 *Mr. Mullin. No.
5751 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.
5752 Mr. Landsman?
5753 *Mr. Landsman. Aye.
5754 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.
5755 Ms. McClellan?
5756 *Ms. McClellan. No.
5757 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes no.
5758 Chairman Guthrie?
5759 *The Chair. Aye.
5760 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.
5761 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Bentz recorded?
5762 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz is not recorded.

5763 *Mr. Bentz. Aye.

5764 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.

5765 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mrs. Houchin reported?

5766 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin is not recorded.

5767 *Mrs. Houchin. Aye.

5768 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin --

5769 *Mr. Joyce. How is --

5770 *The Clerk. -- votes aye.

5771 *Mr. Joyce. -- Dr. Dunn reported?

5772 *Mr. Dunn. Aye.

5773 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.

5774 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Langworthy reported?

5775 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy is not recorded.

5776 *Mr. Langworthy. Aye.

5777 *Mr. Joyce. How is --

5778 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.

5779 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Hudson reported?

5780 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson is not recorded.

5781 *Mr. Hudson. Hudson votes aye.

5782 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

5783 *Mr. Ruiz. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded?

5784 *Mr. Joyce. How is Dr. Ruiz recorded?

5785 *The Clerk. Dr. Ruiz is not recorded.

5786 *Mr. Ruiz. No.

5787 *The Clerk. Dr. Ruiz votes no.

5788 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mrs. Fletcher reported?

5789 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher is recorded as no.

5790 *Mrs. Fletcher. Oh, I want to go to aye.

5791 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher is off no and on aye.

5792 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Crenshaw reported?

5793 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw is not recorded.

5794 *Mr. Crenshaw. Aye.

5795 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

5796 *Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report.

5797 *The Clerk. Mr. Chairman, on that vote there were 28
5798 ayes and 20 noes.

5799 *Mr. Joyce. The ayes have it. The bill is adopted.

5800 The chair calls up committee print of H.R. 3062, and
5801 asks the clerk to report.

5802 *The Clerk. Committee print of H.R. 3062, a bill to
5803 establish a more uniform, transparent and modern process --

5804 *The Chair. Without objection, the first reading the
5805 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for
5806 amendment at any point.

5807 So ordered.

5808 [The bill follows:]

5809

5810 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

5811

5812 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the
5813 bill?

5814 The gentlelady from North Dakota is recognized.

5815 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am proud
5816 to speak in support of this bill, the Promoting Cross-border
5817 Energy Infrastructure Act, which is included in today's
5818 package.

5819 For far too long energy developers have faced an
5820 outdated and unpredictable permitting process that has
5821 delayed and even canceled critical infrastructure projects,
5822 costing taxpayers millions of dollars and weakening American
5823 energy security. Right now, if you want to build a pipeline
5824 or transmission line between the U.S. and Canada or the U.S.
5825 and Mexico, you are stuck navigating a patchwork of executive
5826 orders, undefined agency processes, and shifting political
5827 winds. That is no way to build long-term energy
5828 infrastructure and increase revenue.

5829 We need a cross-border permitting process that increases
5830 revenue, provides certainty, and can't be undone with the
5831 stroke of a pen. We all remember the Keystone XL pipeline,
5832 which would have carried 830,000 barrels of much-needed oil
5833 daily from Alberta to refineries in the Midwest and Texas.
5834 That would have meant real opportunity for my state of North
5835 Dakota, my communities, more jobs, more tax revenue, and more
5836 energy produced right here at home.

5837 After a decade of hold-up by protests and endless
5838 litigation, the project permit, approved by President Trump
5839 in 2017, was reversed on day one of the Biden Administration
5840 to appease environmental activists. With that single
5841 decision, thousands of good-paying jobs were lost, many in my
5842 state of North Dakota. Make no mistake about it, the same
5843 thing could and will happen to cross-border electric power
5844 lines.

5845 This legislation will help fix this problem. It
5846 requires congressional approval to reverse a cross-border
5847 project, no more unilateral decisions based on politics.
5848 Instead of relying on presidential permits, this bill
5849 establishes a certificate of crossing, a clear statutory
5850 process overseen by FERC for oil and gas and by DoE for
5851 electricity. It puts experts in charge of reviewing these
5852 projects, clearly defines border-crossing facility, sets firm
5853 timelines, and provides the regulatory certainty developers
5854 need to invest, hire, and build.

5855 We are trying to modernize an outdated system that
5856 doesn't reflect the complexity of -- importance of today's
5857 energy networks. This legislation strengthens America's role
5858 as a global energy leader. It supports job creation,
5859 economic growth, and the reliable, affordable energy that
5860 families, farmers, and businesses across this country depend
5861 on.

5862 I urge my colleagues to support this provision and stand
5863 with American energy and American workers.

5864 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back the rest of my
5865 time.

5866 *Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. The gentleman from
5867 New Jersey is recognized.

5868 *Mr. Pallone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5869 I have to say this bill looks all too familiar to me,
5870 and that is not just because Republicans tried to include a
5871 pay-to-play permitting scheme based on this bill in their
5872 reconciliation package. And in this case it didn't even make
5873 it past the House Rules Committee. It is not in the
5874 reconciliation.

5875 I am also -- you know, I just also remember, because
5876 they included this in H.R. 1 last Congress, the polluters
5877 over people act, but it is actually -- the bill is actually
5878 over a decade old, and it is the fourth or fifth time it has
5879 made its way through this committee. We debated it way back
5880 in 2015, when Republicans were putting together an energy
5881 package to argue against President Obama's policies related
5882 to the Keystone pipeline.

5883 And this is what the bill is all about. It is about
5884 Keystone, not any current energy challenge or problems facing
5885 people today or this decade, but the Keystone pipeline that
5886 was abandoned four years ago. But for whatever reason,

5887 Republicans are obsessed with relitigating the past. Instead
5888 of focusing on the future or challenges about how to make the
5889 grid cleaner, or more reliable, and more affordable, they
5890 just want to argue Keystone some more.

5891 So, Mr. Chairman, I really am begging Republicans to
5892 focus on the importance of supporting all energy sources, not
5893 just fossil fuels, not to make people pay more, to keep coal
5894 plants online, or to send all our natural gas overseas, or to
5895 ignore state clean water rules for pipelines, or to get rid
5896 of tax credits that make energy affordable.

5897 But the problem seems to be that, you know, on the other
5898 side, the Republicans are out of ideas. This bill is
5899 basically the tired politics that we just can't seem to find
5900 our way out of. And I hope that, moving forward, Republicans
5901 can actually talk about some new ideas to address our current
5902 energy challenges because they are a lot. And, you know,
5903 part of those challenges, or a big part of it, is trying to
5904 make it easier for Americans to afford their energy. But I
5905 just don't see that happening today, and certainly not with
5906 this bill.

5907 I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

5908 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The gentleman from
5909 Texas is recognized.

5910 *Mr. Weber. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to
5911 associate myself with the words from the gentlelady from

5912 North Dakota. Most people may or may not be aware of that,
5913 but -- this, but the Keystone pipeline would have come into
5914 my district there on the Gulf coast of Texas. We are set up
5915 to handle heavy crude, all kinds of crude, really.

5916 For those of you who don't know, the Keystone pipeline
5917 carries 830,000 barrels of product a day. That is a day.
5918 Now, you want to keep from polluting? They like the rhetoric
5919 of "polluters over people" a lot. It is about time that
5920 their rhetoric was more reasonable than unreasonable, because
5921 that is just not the case. This means good energy for Texas.
5922 It means good energy for the United States. It means jobs.
5923 It means the price of oil would be relatively stable.

5924 For those of you who don't know, the average 18-wheeler
5925 carries about 7,000 gallons of product each tank load. So if
5926 you do the math and you consider with 42 gallon barrels of
5927 oil, that equals about 167 barrels in one tanker per day. So
5928 when you have got 18 wheelers on the highway carrying 158
5929 barrels per trip, that is 5,253 18-wheelers on the highway
5930 every day. You want to talk about putting polluters over
5931 people? This is a great way to do it. The pipeline is the
5932 most efficient way to move this product.

5933 Again, it means American energy. It means American
5934 jobs. It means stability in the marketplace. This Keystone
5935 pipeline is a must. It is a good project. It is a good
5936 bill.

5937 I compliment the lady from North Dakota and just simply
5938 say, Mr. Speaker -- I mean, Mr. Chairman -- that this is
5939 something that we should have done way back when, and we
5940 ought to be set to do it now. Otherwise, we will have a lot
5941 of 18-wheelers on the highway, not just to mention putting
5942 out diesel exhaust, sometimes causing wrecks, sometimes not.
5943 Sometimes people just get in their way. But the point of the
5944 matter is that was a good project. It was reasonable, it was
5945 cost effective, and it was much needed, and yet the left
5946 killed it with their rhetoric over reasonableness.

5947 I yield back.

5948 *The Chair. [Presiding.] The gentleman yields back.
5949 The chair recognizes Mr. Peters from California.

5950 *Mr. Peters. Thank you --

5951 *The Chair. He is recognized for five minutes to speak
5952 on the bill.

5953 *Mr. Peters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike
5954 the last word.

5955 *The Chair. The gentleman is recognized.

5956 *Mr. Peters. I really appreciate Representative
5957 Fedorchak sponsoring this bill and introducing it, and for
5958 the energy and reliability experience she brings to the
5959 committee. We had a chance to chat person-to-person
5960 recently, and I am grateful for her offering a bill that
5961 mentions transmission and grid infrastructure.

5962 The Promoting Cross-border Energy Infrastructure Act
5963 take some steps to depoliticize the permitting process for
5964 cross-border infrastructure of all kinds, whether it is
5965 transmission or pipelines, and provides specific deadlines
5966 for agencies to meet when issuing permits, which is the kind
5967 of thing I think we should all support. And while much of
5968 this is something that I could see as part of a bipartisan
5969 energy and permitting package, I am not going to support it
5970 on its own today.

5971 And I just want to say -- I say this to the chairman --
5972 I just haven't seen the committee show a willingness yet to
5973 actually engage in a bipartisan way on actual solutions to
5974 the energy issues we are facing when it comes to transmission
5975 in the grid. We had a lot of bills here. I think only one
5976 was a Democratic bill. I am in the minority. I am not
5977 expecting two-thirds of them, or half of them, but maybe a
5978 third of them could be some of our ideas we could get some
5979 discussion on. But more important, you know, we are facing
5980 this undeniable increase in demand. We have got to figure
5981 out what the toolbox is, and we just need to do this
5982 together.

5983 And, Mr. Chairman, again, I would like you to call us
5984 together to talk about actually solving this problem in a
5985 comprehensive way. I think that would be useful. I think
5986 you have a bunch of willing partners here. And in our

5987 hearing with Secretary Wright you indicated your interest in
5988 doing bipartisan packages. We are just not seeing that yet.
5989 I know we are still early in the term, and I hope we can get
5990 there. And I hope to work with Representative Fedorchak --
5991 again, a great addition to the committee -- Ranking Member
5992 Pallone, Ms. Castor, Mr. Guthrie, and Chair Latta on a
5993 bipartisan path forward on these issues. We are just not
5994 there yet. I hope we get there.

5995 And I yield back.

5996 *The Chair. Would the gentleman yield? Would the
5997 gentleman yield?

5998 Thanks, and I -- we -- there were some efforts to work
5999 together, I will say. However, what I will say is that I
6000 know your offer to work together is sincere. Mine is sincere
6001 that we have to have bipartisan policy going forward.

6002 To build the energy they have to build, it takes an
6003 enormous amount of investment. And when the rules seem to
6004 change -- I know one Congress can't bind the next, but when
6005 we do it together sometimes it is more stability. And we
6006 need to find that pathway to stability. And I appreciate
6007 your offer to do that, and I will make sure that we figure
6008 out a way that we -- if we can, we will work together.

6009 *Mr. Peters. And again, I think it is in all of our
6010 interests to do that because you do need 60 votes in the
6011 Senate. I think we have reconfirmed that again this week, so

6012 you are going to need some Democrats. I am happy to help you
6013 get them, but let's work together to see if we can't meet
6014 these energy demands in a way that makes sense for everybody.

6015 And again, I appreciate this effort, and I yield back.

6016 *The Chair. I appreciate it, thank you.

6017 The gentleman yields back. Is there further discussion
6018 on the bill?

6019 Seeing none, does the gentleman request a roll call
6020 vote?

6021 *Voice. Yes.

6022 *The Chair. If there is no further discussion, the vote
6023 occurs -- excuse me. The question now occurs on approving
6024 the committee print of H.R. 3062. A roll call has been
6025 requested. The clerk will call the roll.

6026 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

6027 *Mr. Latta. Aye.

6028 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

6029 Mr. Griffith?

6030 *Mr. Griffith. Aye.

6031 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

6032 Mr. Bilirakis?

6033 [No response.]

6034 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?

6035 [No response.]

6036 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia?

6037 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.
6038 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.
6039 Mr. Palmer?
6040 *Mr. Palmer. Aye.
6041 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.
6042 Mr. Dunn?
6043 [No response.]
6044 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw?
6045 *Mr. Crenshaw. Aye.
6046 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.
6047 Mr. Joyce?
6048 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.
6049 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.
6050 Mr. Weber?
6051 *Mr. Weber. Aye.
6052 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.
6053 Mr. Allen?
6054 *Mr. Allen. Aye.
6055 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.
6056 Mr. Balderson?
6057 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.
6058 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.
6059 Mr. Fulcher?
6060 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is aye.
6061 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.

6062 Mr. Pfluger?

6063 *Mr. Pfluger. Aye.

6064 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes aye.

6065 Mrs. Harshbarger?

6066 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.

6067 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.

6068 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?

6069 [No response.]

6070 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack?

6071 [No response.]

6072 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte?

6073 *Mr. Obernolte. Aye.

6074 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes aye.

6075 Mr. James?

6076 *Mr. James. Aye.

6077 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.

6078 Mr. Bentz?

6079 *Mr. Bentz. Aye.

6080 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.

6081 Mrs. Houchin?

6082 *Mrs. Houchin. Aye.

6083 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.

6084 Mr. Fry?

6085 *Mr. Fry. Aye.

6086 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes aye.

6087 Ms. Lee?
6088 [No response.]
6089 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
6090 *Mr. Langworthy. Aye.
6091 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.
6092 Mr. Kean?
6093 *Mr. Kean. Aye.
6094 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes aye.
6095 Mr. Rulli?
6096 *Mr. Rulli. Aye.
6097 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.
6098 Mr. Evans?
6099 *Mr. Evans. Aye.
6100 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes aye.
6101 Mr. Goldman?
6102 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.
6103 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.
6104 Mrs. Fedorchak?
6105 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.
6106 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.
6107 Mr. Pallone?
6108 *Mr. Pallone. No.
6109 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.
6110 Ms. DeGette?
6111 *Ms. DeGette. No.

6112 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.
6113 Ms. Schakowsky?
6114 *Ms. Schakowsky. No.
6115 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.
6116 Ms. Matsui?
6117 *Ms. Matsui. No.
6118 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.
6119 Ms. Castor?
6120 *Ms. Castor. No.
6121 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.
6122 Mr. Tonko?
6123 *Mr. Tonko. No.
6124 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.
6125 Ms. Clarke?
6126 *Ms. Clarke. No.
6127 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.
6128 Mr. Ruiz?
6129 *Mr. Ruiz. No.
6130 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.
6131 Mr. Peters?
6132 *Mr. Peters. No.
6133 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.
6134 Mrs. Dingell?
6135 *Mrs. Dingell. No.
6136 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.

6137 Mr. Veasey?
6138 *Mr. Veasey. No.
6139 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.
6140 Ms. Kelly?
6141 *Ms. Kelly. No.
6142 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.
6143 Ms. Barragan?
6144 [No response.]
6145 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto?
6146 *Mr. Soto. No.
6147 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.
6148 Ms. Barragan?
6149 *Ms. Barragan. No.
6150 *The Clerk. Mr. Barragan votes no.
6151 Ms. Schrier?
6152 *Ms. Schrier. No.
6153 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.
6154 Mrs. Trahan?
6155 *Mrs. Trahan. No.
6156 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.
6157 Mrs. Fletcher?
6158 *Mrs. Fletcher. No.
6159 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.
6160 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
6161 [No response.]

6162 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
6163 *Mr. Auchincloss. No.
6164 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes no.
6165 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?
6166 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. No.
6167 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes no.
6168 Mr. Menendez?
6169 *Mr. Menendez. No.
6170 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes no.
6171 Mr. Mullin?
6172 *Mr. Mullin. No.
6173 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.
6174 Mr. Landsman?
6175 *Mr. Landsman. No.
6176 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes no.
6177 Ms. McClellan?
6178 *Ms. McClellan. No.
6179 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes no.
6180 Chairman Guthrie?
6181 *The Chair. Aye.
6182 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.
6183 *The Chair. Anyone seeking -- Dr. Dunn?
6184 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn is not recorded.
6185 *Mr. Dunn. Aye.
6186 *The Chair. Mr. Hudson?

6187 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.
6188 *The Chair. Mr. Hudson?
6189 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson is --
6190 *Mr. Hudson. Aye.
6191 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.
6192 *The Chair. Dr. Miller-Meeks?
6193 *The Clerk. Dr. Miller-Meeks is not recorded.
6194 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Aye.
6195 *The Clerk. Dr. Miller-Meeks votes aye.
6196 *The Chair. Anyone on the Democrat side?
6197 Mrs. Cammack.
6198 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack is not recorded.
6199 *Mrs. Cammack. No. Aye.
6200 [Laughter.]
6201 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.
6202 *The Chair. Fine, good job running.
6203 Any others presenting for answering the roll call?
6204 Seeing none, the clerk will report.
6205 *The Clerk. Mr. Chairman, on that vote there are 28
6206 ayes and 23 noes.
6207 *The Chair. The ayes have it, and the bill is adopted.
6208 The chair calls up H.R. 1949, and asks the clerk to
6209 report.
6210 *The Clerk. H.R. 1949, a bill to repeal restriction --
6211 *The Chair. Without objection, the first reading of the

6212 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will open for amendment
6213 at any point.

6214 So ordered.

6215 [The bill follows:]

6216

6217 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

6218

6219 *The Chair. Does anyone seek to be recognized on the
6220 bill?

6221 For what purpose does the gentleman from Texas seek
6222 recognition?

6223 *Mr. Pfluger. To speak in favor of the legislation.

6224 *The Chair. The gentleman is recognized for five
6225 minutes.

6226 *Mr. Pfluger. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6227 Section 3 of the Natural Gas Act requires that natural
6228 gas exports to countries that have free trade agreement with
6229 the U.S. be approved without delay. For countries that do
6230 not have a free trade agreement with the U.S. the Energy
6231 Secretary is required to approve export requests unless they
6232 find such exports will not be consistent with the public
6233 interest.

6234 But this is where we have gotten into trouble.
6235 Therefore, the Natural Gas Act includes a very rebuttable
6236 presumption in favor of authorizing U.S. LNG exports, knowing
6237 that there are just a handful of free trade agreement
6238 countries.

6239 In early 2024, after succumbing to political pressure
6240 from environmental activists, the Biden-Harris Administration
6241 announced an indefinite ban on issuing export permits to non-
6242 free trade agreement countries while it reviewed the climate
6243 impacts of U.S. LNG. During this ban, Russia overtook the

6244 U.S. as the lead gas supplier to Europe, and long-term
6245 American contracts were jeopardized, global buyers were
6246 forced to look towards less clean and less reliable sources
6247 from adversarial nations.

6248 Thankfully, the Trump Administration quickly reversed
6249 this ban, and just last month the DoE issued its first LNG
6250 export approval.

6251 My legislation, the Unlocking Our Domestic LNG Potential
6252 Act, would ensure that a ban is never again placed on LNG
6253 exports. By removing DoE from the process, export
6254 restrictions would be repealed and LNG exports would have
6255 equal treatment with other commodities already in place and
6256 other issues that we have already faced.

6257 LNG exports unequivocally benefit our economy and
6258 domestic prices, and Congress must act to remove the politics
6259 from energy exports, just as this committee did in 2015 when
6260 it lifted the crude oil export ban. The IEA expects global
6261 gas demand to reach record highs in the coming years,
6262 underscoring the need for new LNG supply. And it must be the
6263 United States, not Iran, not Russia, nor any other
6264 adversarial country that meets that demand and supplies
6265 affordable, clean and abundant LNG to the world.

6266 Iran is just one example, and one of four countries with
6267 substantial proven natural gas reserves. And the conflict
6268 that we have currently seen there, instigated by Iran's

6269 terrorist notions and actions over the last few years,
6270 reminds us of the geopolitical risk posed when adversarial
6271 regimes control energy supplies. At a time when Iran
6272 continues to seek leverage and using its resources for
6273 strategic influence in direct opposition to U.S. and Western
6274 interests, American LNG must fill the gap in the global
6275 market. Our allies and trading partners should not be
6276 dependent on nefarious actors that use energy revenues to
6277 fund terrorism. U.S. LNG offers not only energy security,
6278 but also geopolitical stability, reliability, and cleaner
6279 alternatives for buyers around the world.

6280 I wish that we were not here in this situation, but it
6281 is the facts of the previous administration -- and that is
6282 all we can go on -- that demonstrated a willingness to kill
6283 this industry.

6284 And I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 1949,
6285 and yield back.

6286 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is anyone
6287 seeking discussion on the bill?

6288 The gentlelady from Florida is recognized for five
6289 minutes to speak on the bill.

6290 *Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6291 Under current law, a gas company is required to receive
6292 approval from the Department of Energy to export to make sure
6293 that that export to a non-free trade agreement country is in

6294 the public interest. When we marked up this bill in
6295 subcommittee, there was a bit of confusion, though, on all
6296 parts about the scope of the bill and how it might apply to
6297 certain countries. So I want to make sure we have that on
6298 the record here at the full committee and shed some light on
6299 it. So I have a few questions for counsel.

6300 Counsel, right now FERC handles the siting and
6301 permitting for LNG facilities themselves. Is that correct?

6302 *Counsel. Yes.

6303 *Ms. Castor. And the Department of Energy handles the
6304 approvals for facilities to export LNG not to -- LNG to non-
6305 free trade agreement nations, a public interest test, is that
6306 correct?

6307 *Counsel. Yes.

6308 *Ms. Castor. And this bill, as written, would remove --
6309 wouldn't move that public interest test to FERC. It would
6310 eliminate it entirely. Is that correct?

6311 *Counsel. It requires FERC to deem all exports in the
6312 public interest.

6313 *Ms. Castor. Right. So it is another -- it is a free
6314 pass, a get-out-of-jail-free card.

6315 And I know my good friend from Texas characterizes this
6316 as trouble. This is politics. That is not what the public
6317 interest is. The public interest review means we get to
6318 examine the impact on energy prices for American consumers

6319 and businesses.

6320 In fact, I will offer for the record a letter from the
6321 Industrial Energy Consumers of America, who oppose H.R. 1949
6322 and say -- and raise concerns that if we are exporting our
6323 gas, it is going to increase their -- the prices that they
6324 pay for industrial, manufacturing, and production in America.

6325 The same goes for consumers. This would mean you would
6326 have no public interest review for national security
6327 concerns. You would have no public interest review for
6328 environmental or climate concerns. What a gift. What a
6329 giveaway for gas companies to not have to have any
6330 examination of whether or not that export to a non-free trade
6331 agreement country is in the public interest. It is truly
6332 outrageous. It is deeply, deeply concerning.

6333 And just because the gentleman from Texas flagged this
6334 issue last time, page 3 of the bill maintains the
6335 applicability of sanctions.

6336 Counsel, if there are no sanctions on an importing
6337 nation or final destination or purpose, then under the bill
6338 there is no regulation to stop LNG from going to wherever the
6339 buyer wants it to go. Is that right?

6340 *Counsel. Can you repeat the question?

6341 *Ms. Castor. If there are no sanctions on an importing
6342 nation, or final destination, or person, then under this bill
6343 there is no -- there is nothing stopping LNG from going to

6344 wherever the buyer wants it to go.

6345 *Counsel. If the President invokes the authority listed
6346 on page 3, it can restrict the flow. But otherwise, it is a
6347 free, open market.

6348 *Ms. Castor. I am so glad you mentioned that, because
6349 here is the new wrinkle, friends. I know the President says
6350 and does a lot of things these days, arbitrary, costly
6351 tariffs, threats to Canada, Greenland, things like that. But
6352 it is important for this committee and the public to know
6353 what he said yesterday. He actually said and posted on
6354 social media that he is encouraging the Chinese Communist
6355 Party to buy Iranian crude oil, which is a violation of our
6356 sanctions. In fact, it is completely inconsistent with the
6357 sanctions he announced himself at the end of April and in
6358 February to put maximum pressure on Iran to stop their
6359 exports to China because the money that Iran makes from the
6360 Chinese Communist Party is fueling their terrorist aims,
6361 their financing of terrorist proxies.

6362 So I, frankly, don't understand where this
6363 Administration is going when it comes to policy. It is
6364 important to have a public interest test, especially with a
6365 President who is acting so arbitrarily and is taking a 180-
6366 degree turn from what he just announced a couple of months
6367 ago. So, colleagues, it is more important than ever to keep
6368 this public interest test, make sure that we put the public

6369 at the center of what we are doing here in Congress, rather
6370 than gas companies who really don't have a care or concern
6371 for where that gas ends up, whether it is China or our
6372 adversaries or anywhere else.

6373 Thanks, and I yield back my time.

6374 *The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. I will
6375 recognize myself for five minutes to speak on the bill, and I
6376 will yield to the gentleman from Texas.

6377 *Mr. Pfluger. Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman, and my
6378 colleague from Florida is right. We did litigate this ad
6379 nauseam in the subcommittee, and I want to push back on
6380 something that was just said which is entirely false.

6381 It is not just sanctions that have to be in place for
6382 the President to limit the export of natural gas. It also
6383 includes the International Emergency Economics Power Act, the
6384 National Emergencies Act, the Trading With the Enemy Act, the
6385 Energy Policy and Conservation Act, and any other provision
6386 of law that imposes sanctions on a foreign government that
6387 the President could deem is not in the public interest.

6388 But the Natural Gas Act has deemed that it is in the
6389 public interest to export LNG. And what the previous
6390 administration did is they took that down for political
6391 reasons. They used political reasons to stop and pause,
6392 knowing full well that, by doing that, contracts would be
6393 canceled, the production would cease, and that they would put

6394 energy companies in this country in a dire situation to not
6395 be able to produce, which also affects our supplies right
6396 here.

6397 So it is so tiresome to hear these non-factual
6398 arguments, and then to hear that the President isn't
6399 listening to America. Oh, he listened. On November 5th he
6400 listened loud and clear because energy was on the ballot
6401 because the previous administration took every opportunity to
6402 kill fossil fuels.

6403 And I will remind my colleagues that in September of
6404 2019, when then-candidate Biden was running -- and I quote --
6405 "I will kill the fossil fuel industry," candidate Biden.
6406 And he used every tool, every weapon, and an arsenal that we
6407 have never seen before, including regulatory action to do
6408 just that. Thank goodness districts like mine, districts
6409 like my colleague, Mr. Weber, districts like those in North
6410 Dakota, in the Marcellus in Pennsylvania and Ohio were
6411 resilient enough to withstand those attacks.

6412 This is common sense. This bill is common sense. It
6413 absolutely retains a public interest commitment because it
6414 agrees with statute. What it reduces and what it removes and
6415 what it deletes is the politicization that we saw for four
6416 straight years. We saw it on gas stoves, we saw it with
6417 refrigerants, we saw it with EV mandates, we saw it with
6418 everything this committee has debated.

6419 This is an easy one. This smooths it out. If a country
6420 is nefarious, the President has every opportunity, not just
6421 with sanctions, to limit exports.

6422 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

6423 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back to me, and I
6424 yield back. Is there any further discussion on the bill?

6425 The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for five
6426 minutes to speak on the bill.

6427 *Mr. Menendez. Thank you, Chairman. I just have to
6428 respond to what the gentleman from Texas just said about the
6429 prior administration, and political reasons, and killing
6430 fossil fuel, and all the contracts that were impacted by it.
6431 But then how could you all be silent about what this
6432 Administration is doing when they are looking to kill the
6433 offshore wind industry, for example, where there were
6434 contracts, where you are not going to see development, where
6435 you are not going to see good-paying jobs in places like
6436 Massachusetts and New Jersey, clearly for political -- I will
6437 yield to you -- clearly for political reasons.

6438 So if you don't like what the prior administration did,
6439 whether you agree with the policy or not, but you attribute
6440 it to a political decision, then how could you watch this
6441 Administration make similar decisions about energy production
6442 in this country which are fueled by political ideology?

6443 I will yield to you.

6444 *Mr. Pfluger. Yes, thank you.

6445 Earlier in the debate on a previous bill it was said
6446 that if something doesn't positively affect a constituency,
6447 then they shouldn't have to pay for it. Nobody is saying
6448 that you can't use certain types of energy, okay? We are
6449 just saying we don't want to pay for it and subsidize it.
6450 That is that is the bottom line, is that Americans don't want
6451 to subsidize it. They don't want to pay for it. So that is
6452 what the President is saying, and I think he has made it
6453 pretty clear.

6454 And by the way, if these energy sources are good enough,
6455 they will compete. They will rise up. You know, they will
6456 compete, they will provide the electrons. And we have had a
6457 lot of hearings.

6458 Thank you for yielding the time.

6459 *Mr. Menendez. Yes, and I appreciate it, but I also
6460 want to touch on some of the testimony that we have heard
6461 from folks throughout the course of this committee's work
6462 this Congress.

6463 We have had a Secretary of Energy who does not
6464 acknowledge even the term "renewable energy.'" We have had
6465 folks from the Administration who literally could not
6466 acknowledge that renewable energy helps with our energy
6467 production in this country. That is a political
6468 determination that is not based in fact, because we have seen

6469 it in Texas, right, one of the largest producers of renewable
6470 energy through wind and solar. We know that that has driven
6471 down the cost for users and consumers in Texas, right? But
6472 this Administration -- and they have sat here, right -- can't
6473 even say the words. That is a political decision that is not
6474 based on data or what is good for this country.

6475 So I have to reassert my point that this Administration
6476 is making political decisions, trying to give one last ditch
6477 effort to old energy production legacy sources, and
6478 penalizing those that the previous administration had tried
6479 to uplift.

6480 I yield back.

6481 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
6482 further discussion?

6483 The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Crenshaw, is recognized.
6484 I don't want two Texans talking at the -- the gentleman from
6485 Texas, Mr. Crenshaw.

6486 *Mr. Crenshaw. Thank you. I move to strike the last
6487 word.

6488 *The Chair. The gentleman is recognized for five
6489 minutes.

6490 *Mr. Crenshaw. I just want to make some general
6491 comments about this bill and theme of all of these bills.

6492 On this bill in particular, it is hard for me to
6493 understand -- and, frankly, all of these bills -- how these

6494 are so controversial and partisan.

6495 We are talking about exporting more LNG. If we wonder
6496 -- we think about how America has reduced its carbon
6497 emissions back to around 1990 levels. Well, it is because
6498 fracking and LNG displaced coal. I have heard a lot of talk
6499 about how much everyone hates coal. Well, the market itself,
6500 the oil and gas market, is what displaced it. And it is 50
6501 percent less emissions when you are burning LNG versus coal.
6502 So imagine exporting more of that. You know, if you care
6503 about global emissions, it is a global problem. And the most
6504 likely scenario when you export LNG to developing countries
6505 is that it displaces the dirty coal that they are burning. I
6506 don't understand why that is a controversial subject.

6507 The basic theme of most of these bills is grid
6508 reliability. We all agree, I hope, on the future problem
6509 that America and the entire world has, which is a massive
6510 increase in energy demand, bigger than what we thought
6511 before, because now we have to include the advent of AI and
6512 the data centers that are required to power those things.
6513 Yes, we need all of this.

6514 And these bills, the themes we are seeing here, is grid
6515 reliability. It was said that there is nothing -- if you
6516 cared about this stuff, then you would have something about
6517 transmission lines in here. There is at least two bills in
6518 here that directly address that. Why is this controversial?

6519 Do we have different voters at home? Do you all have
6520 districts where voters only maybe want eight hours of energy
6521 per day in the future? I really doubt that. I think we all
6522 have the same voters with the same interests who want
6523 reliable, affordable energy.

6524 And we are not attacking renewables in these bills,
6525 either. And by the way, renewables have not exactly had it
6526 bad. Let's not make them the victim here. They were the
6527 recipient of, what, hundreds of billions of dollars from the
6528 Inflation Reduction Act in grant money. We don't even know
6529 where that went. The EPA inspector general came in here and
6530 told us they don't even know where it went. They have been
6531 recipients of tax credits for decades, and they have the
6532 audacity to say that it is cheaper. If it is so much
6533 cheaper, then why do they need tax credits and hundreds of
6534 billions of dollars worth of grants?

6535 *Voice. Hear, hear.

6536 *Mr. Crenshaw. It is a bit of a paradox.

6537 So, look, I don't know why this stuff is controversial.
6538 We are not going too far here. We want grid reliability.
6539 Your voters want grid reliability. Our voters want grid
6540 reliability. They want energy that works and turns on. That
6541 is the basic theme of these bills, and I think we should all
6542 support them.

6543 I yield back.

6544 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
6545 further discussion on the bill?

6546 The gentlelady from Colorado is recognized for five
6547 minutes.

6548 *Ms. DeGette. I just say very briefly, Mr. Chairman, I
6549 don't think people should mischaracterize our concerns with
6550 this bill because I support LNG exports. But that is not
6551 what this bill says.

6552 What this bill does is it removes all safeguards to
6553 prevent American LNG from going to foreign entities of
6554 concern. And I know my colleague, Ms. Castor, and others are
6555 going to have amendments to narrow it. But that is all we
6556 are saying is, if you are going to export LNG, make sure it
6557 is in the public interest.

6558 So don't mischaracterize what we think about natural gas
6559 or about LNG or anything else, because that is not what we
6560 are talking about here.

6561 I yield back.

6562 *The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there
6563 further discussion? Further discussion?

6564 The gentlelady from Texas is recognized for five minutes
6565 to speak on the bill.

6566 *Mrs. Fletcher. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I
6567 just wanted to respond briefly. I wasn't quick enough to ask
6568 Mr. Menendez to yield some of his time to me, but I did want

6569 to respond just to one thing that he said in the exchange
6570 with Mr. Pfluger because, as Mr. Pfluger knows, and as many
6571 of you all know here, Mr. Weber, my friends from Texas, Mr.
6572 Goldman, I am a huge fan of LNG exports. I disagreed with
6573 the Biden Administration policy with the pause on LNG. I
6574 disagreed, as Mr. Weber and I were just discussing, with the
6575 revoking the Keystone permit, the Keystone Pipeline permit.
6576 So there are a lot of issues where we have a lot of
6577 agreement.

6578 But I do just want to follow up on what Mr. Menendez
6579 said, because I think it is very dangerous for all of us, and
6580 we should all agree that, while we are pursuing policy
6581 objectives, that this penalizing of industries, penalizing of
6582 red states or blue states isn't something any of us should
6583 support. We are all here to do what is right for all of the
6584 people in this country.

6585 And I think Mr. Pfluger mentioned that one of the issues
6586 was not wanting to have to subsidize some of these
6587 technologies, some of these industries, and so I just wanted
6588 to point out that it isn't just subsidies that we are talking
6589 about.

6590 But on his first day in office, President Trump issued
6591 an executive order removing all of the Outer Continental
6592 Shelf areas from offshore wind leasing, so it is affecting
6593 New Jersey. Now, one has gone through for New York, and that

6594 was kind of a deal. That was a deal. But basically, for
6595 these states that want to do it -- Massachusetts, New York,
6596 New Jersey, and others -- certainly, we have wind lease -- we
6597 had a lease sale in the Gulf in the last Administration that
6598 was unsuccessful.

6599 But this executive order is the same kind of thing that,
6600 you know, we are hearing we don't like. And I think we -- I
6601 didn't like either of them, so I feel at least I have been
6602 consistent there. I don't think we should be doing these
6603 things. And so it isn't simply a question of subsidies and
6604 tax policy. It is a question that here, on his very first
6605 day in office, President Trump did something very similar to
6606 what you are complaining about, and so I think it is
6607 important that we all try to rise above that and, as you
6608 said, Chairman Guthrie, earlier, really try to create
6609 durable, smart policy that will withstand any administration.

6610 It is not good for any of us, it is not good for the
6611 people we represent, it is not good for all these industries
6612 that we are talking about, whether it is, you know,
6613 traditional fossil fuels, renewable energy. It is not good
6614 for any of them to be in such an unpredictable environment, a
6615 regulatory environment where they can't predict what is going
6616 to happen, they can't make long-term investments. That is
6617 not good.

6618 And so what we need is Congress to come in and make

6619 rules that will last from administration to administration.
6620 And the place where we absolutely need to start, and the
6621 thing that we need to do in a bipartisan way in this Congress
6622 is do permitting reform and get it across the finish line. I
6623 know I sound like a broken record. I know Mr. Peters brings
6624 it up at every opportunity. It is a great opportunity for us
6625 to do something that is really going to last.

6626 So again, I just wanted to add that to what Mr. Menendez
6627 said because I do think many of us on this side of the aisle
6628 see a very troubling pattern -- and I am going to talk about
6629 this a little bit more later -- of a consolidation of power
6630 in the executive branch that we don't like, and that I am
6631 hearing from you you didn't like in the last administration.
6632 So it is an opportunity for us to do our job and prevent
6633 those things from happening by getting it done over here.

6634 Thank you, and I yield back.

6635 *The Chair. The gentlelady from Colorado's time. Do
6636 you yield back?

6637 *Ms. DeGette. No, it wasn't my time.

6638 *The Chair. Oh.

6639 *Ms. DeGette. She had her own time.

6640 *The Chair. Oh, she took her own time? I thought she
6641 took -- all right. So the gentlelady yields back.

6642 *Mr. Pallone. Ms. Castor.

6643 *The Chair. Yes, it was your own time. So the

6644 gentlelady from -- wait, on the Republican side?

6645 The gentlelady from Virginia, you are recognized for
6646 five minutes to speak on the bill.

6647 *Ms. McClellan. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

6648 Will the gentleman from Texas yield for a question?

6649 [Pause.]

6650 *Ms. McClellan. Mr. Pfluger? Sorry, there are lots of
6651 members from Texas. Will Mr. Pfluger yield for a question?

6652 *Mr. Pfluger. Sure.

6653 *Ms. McClellan. Thank you. So I heard you say --

6654 *Mr. Pfluger. It is your time.

6655 *Ms. McClellan. Yes. So I heard you say that you did
6656 not necessarily oppose clean energy, but you did oppose
6657 subsidies for it. And I know in our 26-hour markup a lot
6658 happened, so I could have missed something, and then I know
6659 the Rules Committee changed the bill at the literal eleventh
6660 hour before it came to the floor.

6661 Can you identify any of the subsidies or tax breaks for
6662 the fossil fuels that were included in the rescission bill?

6663 *Mr. Pfluger. Any that are dissimilar from every other
6664 manufacturing segment of our country? No.

6665 *Ms. McClellan. Okay --

6666 *Mr. Pfluger. None that are special in any
6667 characteristic, not a single characteristic that look or
6668 resemble anything that other manufacturing in our country --

6669 because it is manufacturing -- does not get. No, I cannot.

6670 *Ms. McClellan. Okay. And is it the gentleman's
6671 position that the manufacturing of clean energy is different
6672 from any other manufacturing?

6673 *Mr. Pfluger. It is my opinion that energy, regardless
6674 of how it is produced, should stand on its own, that it
6675 should be a marketplace and based on the ability to provide
6676 primary sources of energy, which we know there are reliable
6677 and non-reliable sources, and we have heard that testimony.

6678 So my position is that we should treat these types of
6679 energy for what they are, and look at the math and the
6680 science and the physics of how effective, and energy density
6681 would be the single metric that I would use to have that
6682 conversation, which probably exceeds a five-minute
6683 conversation, but thank you.

6684 *Ms. McClellan. Probably so, and I thank the gentleman
6685 for that. I just wanted to make sure I understood your
6686 position.

6687 But it seems to me that Congress overtakes the market
6688 all the time when it wants to invest in different types of
6689 energy generation to pick winners and losers that the market
6690 would not support all the time. We do that with energy, we
6691 do that with communications. And I just think it is
6692 inconsistent to say that we are going to repeal some
6693 subsidies but not others, and then say we don't have a

6694 problem with this particular type of energy, we just don't
6695 want it to be subsidized by the government, when all energy
6696 sources are subsidized by the government.

6697 *Mr. Pfluger. Will the gentlelady yield?

6698 *Ms. McClellan. I yield.

6699 *Mr. Pfluger. I am a true conservative: limited
6700 government, low taxes, and I wish all subsidies would go
6701 away.

6702 *Ms. McClellan. Well, I would say if all subsidies went
6703 away there would probably be no energy generation at all. At
6704 the end of the day, in most state constitutions they allow
6705 electric utilities to recover the costs. And if there were
6706 no subsidies at all for generation, the cost likely would be
6707 too high for any customer to pay.

6708 And so I think that part of what we are trying to do is
6709 ensure that we can meet our energy demands in a way that is
6710 not going to over-burden customers at the end of the day and
6711 they have energy bills they can't pay. And Congress has done
6712 that for a long time, the states have done that for a long
6713 time on both energy and communications policy, on broadband
6714 policy. And I would just like to see a little intellectual
6715 consistency to say, if we are going to subsidize one type of
6716 energy, then we should subsidize them all.

6717 *Mr. Pfluger. Will the gentlelady yield?

6718 *Ms. McClellan. I yield.

6719 *Mr. Pfluger. Okay. Since you asked me a question on
6720 the front end, don't believe me, I mean, I think the seven
6721 independent service providers, operators that came in and
6722 testified in front of this committee pointed to one source,
6723 one source and one source only, as the most efficient,
6724 reliable, and low-cost source, and that was LNG, besides
6725 nuclear, which we agree on.

6726 But I would love to place a friendly wager and invite
6727 you to come to my district and see the math and the science
6728 behind it, because I think that actually it -- that natural
6729 gas, without any subsidy whatsoever, not a single dollar,
6730 penny, or any subsidy, would 100 percent above and beyond any
6731 other source provide that low-cost, reliable, affordable
6732 solution. Not to say that we can't use the other ones,
6733 because I think we can, but they have been propped up for a
6734 long time.

6735 *Ms. McClellan. But we also heard all of these
6736 witnesses say we need an all-of-the-above energy approach,
6737 and we need an all-of-the-above energy approach that also
6738 recognizes that there are clean energy sources like solar
6739 that are currently the cheapest, cleanest, and most reliable
6740 under certain circumstances.

6741 And again, my point only is that the -- you all seem to
6742 be picking and choosing which subsidies you like and which
6743 ones you don't based on which energy sources you prefer. And

6744 my only point is that if we are going to have a true all-of-
6745 the-above approach, then we need to look at the -- I am over
6746 time, so I will yield it back, but I think you get my point.

6747 *Mr. Pfluger. Thank you.

6748 *The Chair. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back. Is
6749 there further discussion on the bill?

6750 The gentleman -- somebody? Okay, I thought I heard --
6751 Dr. Ruiz, you are recognized for five minutes to speak on the
6752 bill.

6753 *Mr. Ruiz. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to
6754 insert for the record this Lazard Levelized Cost of Energy
6755 analysis, June 2025, and these articles from Reuters that
6756 state that the current state of affairs shows that, in an
6757 unsubsidized manner, renewable energy -- solar and wind --
6758 remains the most cost-competitive form of generation. And as
6759 such, renewable energy will continue to play a key role in
6760 the build-out of new power generation in the U.S. This is
6761 particularly true in the current high-power demand
6762 environment, where renewables stand out as both the lowest
6763 cost, the lowest cost, and quickest to deploy generation
6764 resource.

6765 So I know we have been talking about the cost of
6766 producing energy. This report clearly demonstrates that, in
6767 an unsubsidized toe-to-toe, mano-a-mano, that sun and wind
6768 produces energy at a lower cost, and therefore will lower

6769 energy costs. In fact, it is saying that natural gas
6770 production is at a 10-year high energy costs for multiple
6771 factors, and it explains it in this report.

6772 So I would like to submit this for the record.

6773 *The Chair. Seeing no objection, so ordered.

6774 [The information follows:]

6775

6776 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

6777

6778 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back?

6779 The gentleman yields back. Is there any further
6780 discussion on the bill?

6781 The gentlelady from North Dakota seeks recognition. You
6782 have five minutes to speak on the bill.

6783 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Thank you, Mr. Pfluger, for bringing
6784 this forward. We definitely do need more LNG, more natural
6785 gas to solve the energy needs not only in our country, but
6786 with our allies across the globe.

6787 And I will say to the point of the playing field and
6788 levelizing the playing field, if -- whatever resource is the
6789 cheapest and has the attributes that the power grid needs,
6790 those will come forward. And so if it is true that the wind
6791 and solar are the lowest cost without subsidies and we have
6792 removed the subsidies, it should be no problem. We should
6793 have tons more wind and solar if it can compete on a level
6794 playing field.

6795 There has been 32 years of subsidies for those
6796 resources. They are, you know, swamping our grid with -- and
6797 the interconnection queue, and so potentially blocking other
6798 resources out that the grid operators need to balance things
6799 and make sure that we have the reliable, affordable power for
6800 our citizens. And so, without the subsidies, we will see.
6801 If we get the One Big, Beautiful Bill passed and there is a
6802 curtailment of the subsidies for wind and solar after 32

6803 years, then we shall see if they truly are competitive on a
6804 per megawatt basis. And we should have, you know, plenty of
6805 them moving forward to that end.

6806 So thank you. I yield back.

6807 *The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there
6808 further discussion on the bill?

6809 Seeing no further discussion on the bill, are there any
6810 bipartisan amendments on the bill?

6811 Seeing none, are there any amendments on the bill?

6812 *Mr. Pallone. Castor.

6813 *The Chair. For what purpose does the gentlelady seek
6814 recognition?

6815 *Ms. Castor. I have an amendment at the desk, No.
6816 FC_HR1949_9.

6817 *The Chair. The clerk will report.

6818 *The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 1949 offered by Ms.
6819 Castor.

6820 *The Chair. Without objection, the reading of the
6821 amendment is dispensed with.

6822 [The amendment of Ms. Castor follows:]

6823

6824 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

6825

6826 *The Chair. And the gentlelady from Florida is
6827 recognized for five minutes in support of her amendment.

6828 *Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let's really get
6829 down to it of who is going to put their votes behind their
6830 rhetoric.

6831 This amendment would restore the public interest test
6832 for exports of liquefied natural gas from the United States
6833 of America to China.

6834 Over the past several months the Energy Subcommittee has
6835 spent hours debating how we fortify our energy system to
6836 lower the cost of energy for our neighbors back home, to help
6837 maintain our competitive advantage when it comes to AI and
6838 manufacturing and electrification across the country. We are
6839 in this global competition with the Chinese Communist Party,
6840 and we have to do everything to win it. Not a single witness
6841 who has appeared there, nor at the Select Committee to
6842 Counter the Chinese Communist Party has said we should be
6843 helping China power their AI ambitions.

6844 So if my Republican colleagues are serious about that
6845 competition, they would agree we shouldn't be shipping
6846 American energy overseas to China to power their AI data
6847 centers and manufacturing. But here is kind of a dirty
6848 little secret that many folks are not aware of, and the gas
6849 companies certainly don't want you to know. China has been a
6850 significant importer of U.S. LNG.

6851 And then this head-scratcher announcement yesterday from
6852 the President that -- which is -- I know he said oil, but it
6853 just runs counter to everything that we have been trying to
6854 do in a bipartisan way to counter China and to oppose Iran,
6855 as well -- where he said China can now continue to purchase
6856 oil from Iran. Hopefully, they will be purchasing plenty
6857 from the U.S. also. It was my great honor to make this
6858 happen.

6859 I mean, what a -- it is just -- I can't understate what
6860 a 180-degree turn this is. China has many -- they have
6861 really tried to secure many long-term LNG contracts with U.S.
6862 projects. If all of these projects come online, U.S. LNG
6863 would represent -- get this -- up to a quarter of all of
6864 China's contracted LNG, up from about three percent last
6865 year.

6866 Through this bill, House Republicans now want to make it
6867 easier for China to import U.S. energy to power their
6868 industrial sector. They also want to cede the next
6869 generation of energy technologies to China, as evidenced by
6870 the gutting of the clean energy tax credits in their big,
6871 ugly bill they passed in the dark of night.

6872 So again, colleagues, your rhetoric -- your record
6873 should match your rhetoric when it comes to China. You
6874 complained, as we -- as rightfully so, to Chinese forced
6875 labor, massive subsidies, their intellectual property theft.

6876 And then, on the other hand, you want to allow amounts of
6877 U.S. resources to power Chinese factories. I mean, it just
6878 doesn't make sense. If this stands, then those products will
6879 now be made -- excuse me, if -- it just runs counter to
6880 everything that we have been working for.

6881 Don't just take it from me, however. I mentioned this
6882 earlier, but I want to read a little bit. The industrial
6883 energy consumers of America, America's manufacturers, they
6884 oppose this. They say, as manufacturers who compete with
6885 China and are price sensitive, Chinese company LNG contracts
6886 represent 36.8 percent of U.S. LNG operating capacity. We
6887 believe that U.S. consumers should be a priority over LNG
6888 customers, but LNG contracts flip the priority. They are
6889 asking Congress to protect U.S. consumers and economy, not
6890 prioritize the profits of the LNG company. Some things are
6891 more important than America -- in America than the profit,
6892 the bottom line for the gas companies and their lobbyists.
6893 That is why we fight for a public interest test, to make sure
6894 the public interest comes before the polluters' interest.
6895 They are asking that we oppose this bill and urge DoE to
6896 implement a policy to insulate U.S. consumers from the
6897 impacts of LNG exports.

6898 So here is what we need to do. We need to adopt this
6899 amendment. We need to defeat this bill to make sure that the
6900 public interest comes first. The public interest test is

6901 necessary. If we don't adopt this amendment and this bill is
6902 signed into law, they will be completely gone, all of these
6903 considerations -- again, a gift to China at a time where the
6904 President has taken a chainsaw to medical innovation and our
6905 scientific enterprise, allowing the clean energy economy to
6906 be stolen away just when we were getting going with a
6907 manufacturing boom and job creation across the country, many
6908 of those jobs and factories in my colleagues' districts.

6909 If you believe what we have heard this Congress about
6910 the importance of energy to China's AI ambitions, unless you
6911 adopt this amendment and begin to advocate for a sane America
6912 first, a true America first policy, you are going to be
6913 giving it all away. And we are going to keep reminding you
6914 of it every hearing that we have, that you have sided with
6915 Chinese industrialization, the Chinese Communist Party over
6916 the best interests, the public interest of the United States
6917 of America.

6918 I urge my colleagues to support the amendment and yield
6919 back.

6920 *The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there any
6921 further discussion on the bill?

6922 *Voice. Oh, it is an amendment.

6923 *The Chair. Oh, on the amendment, on the amendment.

6924 The gentleman from Texas is recognized for five minutes
6925 to speak on the amendment.

6926 *Mr. Pfluger. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My remarks will
6927 be short. They will mirror the sentiment of many Americans
6928 -- in fact, I would say most Americans -- that they are tired
6929 of Congress stumbling and bumbling. They are tired of the
6930 politicization. They are tired of all of this. Let's not
6931 confuse the public interest with the political interest,
6932 which is what we are hearing.

6933 I obviously oppose this amendment.

6934 And just for the record, to make it clear, the public
6935 interest test is still alive and well in chapter 3 of the
6936 Natural Gas Act. It is alive and well. The President has
6937 every authority. In fact, this Administration has restricted
6938 shipments of ethane to countries like China this year. So
6939 when you look at the facts, it is still alive and well. The
6940 executive branch still has the opportunity to deem whether or
6941 not it is in the public interest.

6942 I oppose this amendment. Let's move at the speed of
6943 commerce. Let's get away from the political interest.

6944 And I yield back.

6945 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
6946 further discussion on the amendment?

6947 *Mr. Pallone. I want a roll call.

6948 *The Chair. Seeing none, the vote occurs on the
6949 amendment. A roll call has been requested, and the clerk
6950 will call the roll.

6951 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?
6952 [No response.]
6953 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?
6954 *Mr. Griffith. No.
6955 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.
6956 Mr. Bilirakis?
6957 [No response.]
6958 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?
6959 *Mr. Hudson. No.
6960 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.
6961 Mr. Carter of Georgia?
6962 [No response.]
6963 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia?
6964 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. No.
6965 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.
6966 Mr. Palmer?
6967 *Mr. Palmer. No.
6968 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.
6969 Mr. Dunn?
6970 [No response.]
6971 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw?
6972 *Mr. Crenshaw. No.
6973 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.
6974 Mr. Joyce?
6975 *Mr. Joyce. No.

6976 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.
6977 Mr. Weber?
6978 *Mr. Weber. No.
6979 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes no.
6980 Mr. Allen?
6981 [No response.]
6982 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson?
6983 [No response.]
6984 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher?
6985 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher, no.
6986 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes no.
6987 Mr. Pfluger?
6988 *Mr. Pfluger. No.
6989 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes no.
6990 Mrs. Harshbarger?
6991 *Mrs. Harshbarger. No.
6992 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.
6993 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
6994 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. No.
6995 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes no.
6996 Mrs. Cammack?
6997 [No response.]
6998 *The Clerk. Mr. Oubernolte?
6999 [No response.]
7000 *The Clerk. Mr. James?

7001 [No response.]

7002 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz?

7003 *Mr. Bentz. No.

7004 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes no.

7005 Mrs. Houchin?

7006 *Mrs. Houchin. No.

7007 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes no.

7008 Mr. Fry?

7009 [No response.]

7010 *The Clerk. Ms. Lee?

7011 [No response.]

7012 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?

7013 *Mr. Langworthy. No.

7014 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes no.

7015 Mr. Kean?

7016 *Mr. Kean. No.

7017 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes no.

7018 Mr. Rulli?

7019 [No response.]

7020 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans?

7021 *Mr. Evans. No.

7022 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes no.

7023 Mr. Goldman?

7024 *Mr. Goldman. No.

7025 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes no.

7026 Mrs. Fedorchak?

7027 *Mrs. Fedorchak. No.

7028 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.

7029 Mr. Pallone?

7030 *Mr. Pallone. Aye.

7031 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.

7032 Ms. DeGette?

7033 *Ms. DeGette. Aye.

7034 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.

7035 Ms. Schakowsky?

7036 *Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.

7037 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.

7038 Ms. Matsui?

7039 *Ms. Matsui. Aye.

7040 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.

7041 Ms. Castor?

7042 *Ms. Castor. Aye.

7043 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.

7044 Mr. Tonko?

7045 *Mr. Tonko. Aye.

7046 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.

7047 Ms. Clarke?

7048 *Ms. Clarke. Aye.

7049 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.

7050 Mr. Ruiz?

7051 *Mr. Ruiz. Aye.
7052 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.
7053 Mr. Peters?
7054 *Mr. Peters. Aye.
7055 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.
7056 Mrs. Dingell?
7057 *Mrs. Dingell. Aye.
7058 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.
7059 Mr. Veasey?
7060 *Mr. Veasey. Aye.
7061 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.
7062 Ms. Kelly?
7063 *Ms. Kelly. Aye.
7064 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.
7065 Ms. Barragan?
7066 *Ms. Barragan. Aye.
7067 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.
7068 Mr. Soto?
7069 *Mr. Soto. Aye.
7070 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.
7071 Ms. Schrier?
7072 *Ms. Schrier. Aye.
7073 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.
7074 Mrs. Trahan?
7075 *Mrs. Trahan. Aye.

7076 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.
7077 Mrs. Fletcher?
7078 *Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.
7079 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.
7080 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
7081 [No response.]
7082 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
7083 *Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.
7084 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.
7085 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?
7086 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Yes.
7087 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.
7088 Mr. Menendez?
7089 *Mr. Menendez. Aye.
7090 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.
7091 Mr. Mullin?
7092 *Mr. Mullin. Aye.
7093 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.
7094 Mr. Landsman?
7095 *Mr. Landsman. Aye.
7096 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.
7097 Ms. McClellan?
7098 *Ms. McClellan. Aye.
7099 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.
7100 Chairman Guthrie?

7101 *The Chair. No.

7102 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes no.

7103 *The Chair. Mr. Latta?

7104 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta is not recorded.

7105 *Mr. Latta. No.

7106 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.

7107 *The Chair. Dr. Dunn?

7108 *Mr. Dunn. No.

7109 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.

7110 *The Chair. Mr. Fry?

7111 *Mr. Fry. No.

7112 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes no.

7113 *The Chair. Mrs. Cammack?

7114 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack is not recorded.

7115 *Mrs. Cammack. No.

7116 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack --

7117 *The Chair. Mr. Balderson?

7118 *The Clerk. -- votes no.

7119 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson is not recorded.

7120 *Mr. Balderson. No.

7121 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes no.

7122 *The Chair. Anyone?

7123 *Mr. Obernolte. Obernolte --

7124 *The Chair. Oh, Mr. Obernolte.

7125 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte is not recorded.

7126 *Mr. Obernolte. No.

7127 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte --

7128 *The Chair. Mr. James?

7129 *The Clerk. -- votes aye.

7130 Excuse me, Mr. Obernolte votes no.

7131 *The Chair. Mr. James?

7132 *The Clerk. Mr. James is not recorded.

7133 *Mr. James. James votes no.

7134 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes no.

7135 *The Chair. Mr. Kean? Mr. Kean?

7136 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean is recorded as no.

7137 *The Chair. Okay. Is there anyone on the Democrat

7138 side?

7139 The clerk will report.

7140 *The Clerk. Mr. Chairman, on that vote there were 23

7141 ayes and 26 noes.

7142 *The Chair. The amendment is not agreed to. Are there

7143 further amendments?

7144 The gentlelady from Virginia, for what purpose do you

7145 seek recognition?

7146 *Ms. McClellan. Sir, I have an amendment at the desk

7147 labeled FC_HR1949_11_xml.

7148 *The Chair. The clerk will report.

7149 *The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 1949 offered by Ms.

7150 McClellan.

7151 *The Chair. Without objection, the reading of the
7152 amendment is dispensed with.

7153 [The amendment of Ms. McClellan follows:]

7154

7155 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

7156

7157 *The Chair. And the gentlelady from Virginia is
7158 recognized for five minutes in support of her amendment.

7159 *Ms. McClellan. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

7160 Last week the Senate Finance Committee Republicans
7161 released their section of the big, ugly bill that guts the
7162 Inflation Reduction Act energy tax credits. These tax
7163 credits are vitally important not only to economic
7164 competitiveness, but in keeping energy bills affordable for
7165 end users. And slashing them could increase Americans'
7166 utility bills by over \$400 each year.

7167 The Senate version of that section creates an unfair
7168 cliff that only applies to wind and solar energy, under-
7169 cutting Republican claims to support an all-of-the-above
7170 energy strategy. It imposes restrictions on power plants
7171 receiving tax credits that target embedded materials that
7172 come from foreign entities of concern, which are mainly
7173 China, but also few other countries. And the Senate bill
7174 phases in supply chain restrictions, mandating that certain
7175 percentages of materials cannot be tied in any way to a
7176 country like China, down to every bolt and screw.

7177 Many experts have pointed out that the language is
7178 sloppy and unclear, either by design or by mistake, and in
7179 practice it could be impossible for projects to demonstrate
7180 compliance with the restrictions, even if every critical
7181 component were made in America. And yet the Senate

7182 Republicans think that that type of restriction is a good
7183 idea.

7184 Now, I am not opposed to scrutinizing where we source
7185 components for energy infrastructure, but any restrictions
7186 need to be applied fairly and consistently, and what is good
7187 for the goose is good for the gander. So if we have these
7188 foreign entities of concern standards for clean energy, they
7189 should also apply to fossil energy.

7190 Currently, the U.S. relies much more on fossil energy
7191 than clean energy, and so Republicans should be even more
7192 worried about China and other nations of concern being
7193 involved in the supply chain for the fossil energy
7194 infrastructure. So that is what this amendment addresses by
7195 applying the same foreign entity restrictions that the Senate
7196 bill puts on clean energy facilities to LNG facilities. LNG
7197 facilities would still operate if they meet the restrictions;
7198 they just wouldn't get access to the special permitting
7199 structure that the bill creates if they are owned by a
7200 foreign entity of concern or received material assistance
7201 from one in their construction or operation. So this is just
7202 simply making the same standards apply across the board.

7203 If Republicans believe that the LNG value chain from
7204 bolt to liquefaction technology to the pipelines doesn't have
7205 a trace of a foreign entity of concern, then this amendment
7206 should be easy to support. If the Republicans are worried

7207 about foreign entities in the LNG value chain, then they
7208 would want to incentivize companies to reshore supply chains
7209 in America. So I am just trying to make this language
7210 consistent across the board for both LNG and for clean
7211 energy.

7212 And with that I yield back.

7213 *The Chair. The gentlelady yields back. Is there
7214 discussion on the amendment?

7215 The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Pfluger, is recognized for
7216 five minutes to speak on the amendment.

7217 *Mr. Pfluger. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And again, my
7218 comments are going to be as brief as possible to not
7219 relitigate this as we did throughout our subcommittee markup.

7220 But this is an apples-to-oranges discussion. It is a
7221 completely different situation. The IRA that was estimated
7222 by CBO to be \$350 billion out of our taxpayer dollars ended
7223 up being well over \$1 trillion, and much of that money has
7224 gone to China in the form of paying for critical minerals,
7225 solar panels, components that go into wind and other
7226 renewable energy sources. So this is completely different
7227 when you are talking about the production of USA natural gas.

7228 I fully support what the Senate is trying to do for the
7229 entity of concern test for the IRA tax credit, and I fully
7230 support vetting those who own LNG export facilities and LNG
7231 facilities in the United States of America.

7232 And in fact, this is such a duplicative amendment, it
7233 already exists. State, Treasury, FERC, that process is not
7234 going to change. They already vet it. It is already going
7235 through a process to make sure -- in fact, this LNG industry
7236 is so much more mature than what -- the IRA clean giveaway
7237 energy tax credits that foreign countries have claimed for
7238 far too long -- again, on the ballot on November 5 -- because
7239 people were tired of seeing over \$1 trillion go to countries
7240 like China.

7241 This is different. The vetting will not change. We
7242 don't have nefarious actors. And if they are nefarious and
7243 they are applying to own or be a part of an LNG facility,
7244 they won't get there because we have multiple agencies within
7245 the executive branch that are going to vet that and prevent
7246 them from owning it.

7247 So I definitely support keeping entities of concern out
7248 of the ownership of these types of facilities, but it already
7249 exists. And for that reason I will be a no on this
7250 amendment.

7251 I yield back.

7252 *The Chair. The gentleman yields back. Is there
7253 further discussion on the amendment?

7254 *Ms. Castor. Yes.

7255 *The Chair. The gentlelady from Florida, Ms. Castor, is
7256 recognized for five minutes to speak on the amendment.

7257 *Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You know, during
7258 our subcommittee we did have a little bit of fun, however,
7259 and traded our favorite quotes from Shakespeare and Hamlet,
7260 and this Republican move has reminded me of, "How do I love
7261 thee? Let me count the ways," because you just -- you are
7262 blinded by what oil and gas is asking for, to the detriment
7263 of the people we represent back home. You "love thee to the
7264 depth and breadth and height my soul can reach, when feeling
7265 out of sight for the ends of being and ideal grace." It is
7266 just constant love letters from the GOP that -- I know many
7267 people say GOP, grand oil party, but just time after time
7268 after time, putting the interest of the oil and gas companies
7269 above the interests of American consumers and manufacturers.

7270 And I am grateful for Ms. McClellan's amendment here,
7271 and I want to offer my strong support for it, because for
7272 years Republicans on this committee have cited U.S.
7273 dependance on Chinese-manufactured products like solar panels
7274 or batteries to pose our transition to the next-generation
7275 economy. House Republicans have been so fixated on this
7276 issue that they voted in the dead of night in the big, ugly
7277 bill to impose these foreign entity of concern provisions on
7278 many of the clean energy tax credits passed by Democrats as
7279 part of our historic clean energy and climate law in 2022.

7280 But independent analysis has shown that the House
7281 restrictions would result in a real heartache for Americans

7282 and American manufacturing: 237 billion in lost GDP; 162
7283 billion in lost wages; and a wipeout of 1.4 million American
7284 jobs. And unfortunately, as we wait for the Senate to
7285 produce some text, we do have hints that they have decided to
7286 double down on this approach, applying restrictions to all
7287 types of clean energy generation and manufacturing in their
7288 version of the big, ugly bill.

7289 When Secretary of Energy Chris Wright appeared before
7290 the Energy Subcommittee this month he said, "We don't want
7291 companies that are just pass-through entities for products
7292 from abroad.'" While he couldn't answer whether any specific
7293 companies that he has been involved with could meet
7294 Republicans' fiat requirements, it seemed reasonable that we
7295 would apply the same standards to all energy supply chains.
7296 So if Republicans are so proud of domestic, homegrown U.S.
7297 LNG, they should have no problem supporting this amendment
7298 that simply ensures that those projects are made without
7299 parts from China and other foreign adversaries.

7300 And there was an interesting discussion with Ms.
7301 McClellan and Mr. Pfluger on subsidies. You know, oil and
7302 gas, they have received massive Federal subsidies for
7303 decades, more than \$20 billion annually. In just one
7304 example, the intangible drilling cost deduction allows
7305 companies to deduct most costs of drilling new wells valued
7306 at \$1 billion annually. The latest draft of the Republican

7307 big, ugly bill from the Senate Finance Committee gives
7308 another 18 billion to the oil and gas industry over the next
7309 decade. This includes reductions in royalties, royalty rates
7310 for drillers on public lands and in public waters.

7311 You know, the American consumers have been subsidizing
7312 big oil and gas, providing these handouts for way too long.
7313 And now those handouts are going to directly benefit our
7314 competitors, both those manufacturing the components that
7315 build LNG export terminals and those receiving the LNG
7316 exports. If my Republican colleagues really want to secure
7317 American energy and protect our national security, they would
7318 have no problem using the foreign entity restrictions that
7319 they wrote here. That is fair. That is equitable.

7320 I urge my colleagues to support Ms. McClellan's good
7321 amendment, and I yield back.

7322 *Mr. Joyce. [Presiding.] The gentlelady yields. Is
7323 there any further discussion on the amendment?

7324 Seeing none, a roll call vote has been requested. The
7325 clerk will call the roll.

7326 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

7327 [No response.]

7328 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?

7329 *Mr. Griffith. No.

7330 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.

7331 Mr. Bilirakis?

7332 [No response.]

7333 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?

7334 *Mr. Hudson. No.

7335 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.

7336 Mr. Carter of Georgia?

7337 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. No.

7338 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.

7339 Mr. Palmer?

7340 *Mr. Palmer. No.

7341 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.

7342 Mr. Dunn?

7343 *Mr. Dunn. No.

7344 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.

7345 Mr. Crenshaw?

7346 *Mr. Crenshaw. No.

7347 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.

7348 Mr. Joyce?

7349 *Mr. Joyce. No.

7350 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.

7351 Mr. Weber?

7352 *Mr. Weber. Negative.

7353 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes no.

7354 Mr. Allen?

7355 *Mr. Allen. No.

7356 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes no.

7357 Mr. Balderson?
7358 *Mr. Balderson. No.
7359 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes no.
7360 Mr. Fulcher?
7361 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is no.
7362 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes no.
7363 Mr. Pfluger?
7364 *Mr. Pfluger. No.
7365 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes no.
7366 Mrs. Harshbarger?
7367 *Mrs. Harshbarger. No.
7368 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.
7369 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
7370 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. No.
7371 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes no.
7372 Mrs. Cammack?
7373 [No response.]
7374 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte?
7375 *Mr. Obernolte. No.
7376 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes no.
7377 Mr. James?
7378 *Mr. James. No.
7379 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes no.
7380 Mr. Bentz?
7381 *Mr. Bentz. No.

7382 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes no.
7383 Mrs. Houchin?
7384 [No response.]
7385 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry?
7386 [No response.]
7387 *The Clerk. Ms. Lee?
7388 [No response.]
7389 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
7390 [No response.]
7391 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean?
7392 *Mr. Kean. No.
7393 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes no.
7394 Mr. Rulli?
7395 *Mr. Rulli. No.
7396 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes no.
7397 Mr. Evans?
7398 *Mr. Evans. No.
7399 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes no.
7400 Mr. Goldman?
7401 *Mr. Goldman. No.
7402 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes no.
7403 Mrs. Fedorchak?
7404 *Mrs. Fedorchak. No.
7405 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.
7406 Mr. Pallone?

7407 *Mr. Pallone. Aye.
7408 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.
7409 Ms. DeGette?
7410 *Ms. DeGette. Aye.
7411 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.
7412 Ms. Schakowsky?
7413 *Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.
7414 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.
7415 Ms. Matsui?
7416 *Ms. Matsui. Aye.
7417 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.
7418 Ms. Castor?
7419 *Ms. Castor. Aye.
7420 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.
7421 Mr. Tonko?
7422 *Mr. Tonko. Aye.
7423 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.
7424 Ms. Clarke?
7425 *Ms. Clarke. Aye.
7426 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.
7427 Mr. Ruiz?
7428 *Mr. Ruiz. Aye.
7429 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.
7430 Mr. Peters?
7431 *Mr. Peters. Aye.

7432 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.
7433 Mrs. Dingell?
7434 *Mrs. Dingell. Aye.
7435 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.
7436 Mr. Veasey?
7437 *Mr. Veasey. Aye.
7438 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.
7439 Ms. Kelly?
7440 [No response.]
7441 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly?
7442 *Ms. Kelly. Aye.
7443 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.
7444 Ms. Barragan?
7445 *Ms. Barragan. Aye.
7446 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.
7447 Mr. Soto?
7448 *Mr. Soto. Aye.
7449 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.
7450 Ms. Schrier?
7451 *Ms. Schrier. Aye.
7452 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.
7453 Mrs. Trahan?
7454 *Mrs. Trahan. Aye.
7455 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.
7456 Mrs. Fletcher?

7457 *Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.
7458 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.
7459 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
7460 [No response.]
7461 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
7462 *Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.
7463 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.
7464 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?
7465 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.
7466 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.
7467 Mr. Menendez?
7468 *Mr. Menendez. Aye.
7469 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.
7470 Mr. Mullin?
7471 *Mr. Mullin. Aye.
7472 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.
7473 Mr. Landsman?
7474 *Mr. Landsman. Aye.
7475 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.
7476 Ms. McClellan?
7477 *Ms. McClellan. Aye.
7478 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.
7479 Chairman Guthrie?
7480 *The Chair. No.
7481 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes no.

7482 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Latta reported?
7483 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta is not recorded.
7484 *Mr. Latta. No.
7485 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.
7486 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mrs. Cammack reported?
7487 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack is not recorded.
7488 *Mrs. Cammack. No.
7489 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes no.
7490 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone else wish to be recorded?
7491 The clerk will report the results.
7492 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce, on that vote there were 23 ayes
7493 and 25 noes.
7494 *Mr. Joyce. The amendment is not agreed to. Are there
7495 any further amendments?
7496 Seeing none, the question now occurs on approving H.R.
7497 1949, and a roll call vote has been requested. The clerk
7498 will call the roll.
7499 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?
7500 *Mr. Latta. Aye.
7501 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.
7502 Mr. Griffith?
7503 *Mr. Griffith. Aye.
7504 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.
7505 Mr. Bilirakis?
7506 [No response.]

7507 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?
7508 *Mr. Hudson. Aye.
7509 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.
7510 Mr. Carter of Georgia?
7511 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.
7512 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.
7513 Mr. Palmer?
7514 *Mr. Palmer. Aye.
7515 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.
7516 Mr. Dunn?
7517 *Mr. Dunn. Aye.
7518 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.
7519 Mr. Crenshaw?
7520 *Mr. Crenshaw. Aye.
7521 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.
7522 Mr. Joyce?
7523 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.
7524 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.
7525 Mr. Weber?
7526 *Mr. Weber. Aye.
7527 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.
7528 Mr. Allen?
7529 *Mr. Allen. Aye.
7530 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.
7531 Mr. Balderson?

7532 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.
7533 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.
7534 Mr. Fulcher?
7535 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is aye.
7536 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.
7537 Mr. Pfluger?
7538 *Mr. Pfluger. Aye.
7539 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes aye.
7540 Mrs. Harshbarger?
7541 [No response.]
7542 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
7543 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Aye.
7544 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.
7545 Mrs. Cammack?
7546 [No response.]
7547 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte?
7548 *Mr. Obernolte. Aye.
7549 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes aye.
7550 Mr. James?
7551 *Mr. James. Aye.
7552 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.
7553 Mr. Bentz?
7554 *Mr. Bentz. Aye.
7555 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.
7556 Mrs. Houchin?

7557 [No response.]
7558 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry?
7559 *Mr. Fry. Aye.
7560 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry votes aye.
7561 Ms. Lee?
7562 [No response.]
7563 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
7564 [No response.]
7565 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean?
7566 *Mr. Kean. Aye.
7567 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes aye.
7568 Mr. Rulli?
7569 *Mr. Rulli. Aye.
7570 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.
7571 Mr. Evans?
7572 *Mr. Evans. Aye.
7573 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes aye.
7574 Mr. Goldman?
7575 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.
7576 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.
7577 Mrs. Fedorchak?
7578 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.
7579 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.
7580 Mr. Pallone?
7581 *Mr. Pallone. No.

7582 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.
7583 Ms. DeGette?
7584 *Ms. DeGette. No.
7585 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.
7586 Ms. Schakowsky?
7587 *Ms. Schakowsky. No.
7588 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.
7589 Ms. Matsui?
7590 *Ms. Matsui. No.
7591 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.
7592 Ms. Castor?
7593 *Ms. Castor. No.
7594 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.
7595 Mr. Tonko?
7596 *Mr. Tonko. No.
7597 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.
7598 Ms. Clarke?
7599 *Ms. Clarke. No.
7600 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.
7601 Mr. Ruiz?
7602 *Mr. Ruiz. No.
7603 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.
7604 Mr. Peters?
7605 *Mr. Peters. No.
7606 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.

7607 Mrs. Dingell?
7608 *Mrs. Dingell. No.
7609 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.
7610 Mr. Veasey?
7611 *Mr. Veasey. No.
7612 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.
7613 Ms. Kelly?
7614 *Ms. Kelly. No.
7615 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.
7616 Ms. Barragan?
7617 *Ms. Barragan. No.
7618 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.
7619 Mr. Soto?
7620 *Mr. Soto. No.
7621 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.
7622 Ms. Schrier?
7623 [No response.]
7624 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan?
7625 *Mrs. Trahan. No.
7626 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.
7627 Mrs. Fletcher?
7628 *Mrs. Fletcher. No.
7629 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.
7630 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
7631 [No response.]

7632 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
7633 *Mr. Auchincloss. No.
7634 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes no.
7635 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?
7636 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. No.
7637 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes no.
7638 Mr. Menendez?
7639 *Mr. Menendez. No.
7640 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes no.
7641 Mr. Mullin?
7642 *Mr. Mullin. No.
7643 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.
7644 Mr. Landsman?
7645 *Mr. Landsman. No.
7646 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes no.
7647 Ms. McClellan?
7648 *Ms. McClellan. No.
7649 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes no.
7650 Chairman Guthrie?
7651 [No response.]
7652 *The Chair. How is Dr. Harshbarger recorded?
7653 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger is not recorded.
7654 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Yes.
7655 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.
7656 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mrs. Cammack recorded?

7657 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack is not recorded.
7658 *Mrs. Cammack. Aye.
7659 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.
7660 *Mr. Joyce. How is Dr. Schrier reported?
7661 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier is not recorded.
7662 *Ms. Schrier. No.
7663 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.
7664 *The Chair. How is Guthrie recorded?
7665 *The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie is not recorded.
7666 *The Chair. Aye.
7667 *The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.
7668 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Palmer recorded?
7669 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer is recorded as aye.
7670 *Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report the roll.
7671 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce, on that vote there were 26 ayes
7672 and 23 noes.
7673 *Mr. Joyce. The ayes have it. The bill is adopted.
7674 The chair calls up H.R. 3668, and asks the clerk to
7675 report.
7676 *The Clerk. H.R. 3668, a bill to promote interagency
7677 coordination for reviewing certain --
7678 *Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the first reading of the
7679 bill is dispensed with, and the bill will be open for
7680 amendment at any point.
7681 So ordered.

7682 [The bill follows:]

7683

7684 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

7685

7686 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone wish to be recognized to speak
7687 on the bill?

7688 The gentleman from North Carolina is recognized.

7689 *Mr. Hudson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7690 H.R. 3668, the Improving Interagency Coordination for
7691 Pipeline Reviews Act, this bill would make much-needed
7692 reforms to the permitting of interstate natural gas
7693 pipelines. Development of interstate pipelines currently
7694 faces unnecessary and significantly -- and significant
7695 regulatory and statutory hurdles. In fact, only 5 petroleum
7696 liquid pipelines were completed in 2024, with the only
7697 interstate pipeline being a refined product pipeline.

7698 In every Energy Subcommittee hearing this year, as well
7699 as at the full committee hearing examining the future of
7700 artificial intelligence, each witness has highlighted the
7701 need for additional infrastructure to meet both short and
7702 long-term energy and strategic goals. Our regulatory and
7703 statutory permitting process must reflect the urgency and
7704 importance of the projected growth in natural gas demand.

7705 Despite FERC being granted increased authority under the
7706 Energy Policy Act of 2025, pipeline project approvals are
7707 consistently delayed due to the lack of coordination between
7708 the multiple agencies involved in the permitting process. My
7709 bill would make this process more efficient by bringing
7710 stakeholders, including agencies, to the table earlier so

7711 concerns can be identified early in the process. From there,
7712 agencies participating in the permitting process would
7713 perform their analysis while complying with schedules
7714 established by FERC.

7715 It would also improve the water quality review by moving
7716 that responsibility from states to FERC. For the past decade
7717 a few states, especially in the northeast, have used this
7718 federally-delegated section 401 authority to obstruct
7719 interstate projects. These states have stood outside the
7720 FERC-led NEPA process and used their section 401 authority as
7721 a one-state veto of a multi-state project of national
7722 significance. This has been detrimental to the development
7723 of critical pipeline infrastructure.

7724 Under H.R. 3668, FERC would continue to incorporate
7725 water quality and other environmental reviews in its
7726 analysis. FERC would still consider terms or conditions
7727 proposed by the states involved in the process, and include
7728 any necessary to comply with the underlying statute. This
7729 process does not weaken the Clean Water Act, and it does not
7730 strip states of authorities. Environmental reviews will
7731 continue to be conducted by FERC, and states will continue to
7732 have the opportunity to raise legitimate concerns.

7733 If we want to fuel our nation forward, lower costs for
7734 consumers, win the AI race against China, and strengthen our
7735 position as an energy superpower, it is critical we have

7736 regulatory and statutory processes in place to build
7737 infrastructure in this country. This is a race we cannot
7738 lose.

7739 I urge my colleagues to vote yes on H.R. 3668, and I
7740 yield back the balance of my time.

7741 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7742 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The gentleman from
7743 Louisiana, Mr. Carter, is recognized for five minutes.

7744 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
7745 would like to strike the last word in opposition to this
7746 bill.

7747 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman is recognized.

7748 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. I am proud to represent
7749 Louisiana, a state that has powered this nation for
7750 generations, from offshore rigs to solar fields. We know
7751 energy. We live it. We help fuel it. We helped fuel
7752 America's past. And we are helping build and fuel its
7753 future. Hydrogen, wind, and solar are growing across
7754 Louisiana not just in theory, but in practice. That is not
7755 just for jobs, it is for health, economy, and our children.

7756 But I must say what we are seeing today, as many of
7757 these bills go through the process, including this one, it is
7758 not a road map to American energy leadership. It is a short
7759 cut for special interests, a wish list for the well-
7760 connected, a threat to the environmental safeguards and

7761 communities we count on.

7762 Yes, we need permitting reform desperately. Projects
7763 take way too long. The bureaucracy too often stands in the
7764 way of progress. But let me be clear. Reform must never
7765 mean rolling back critical safety and environmental reviews,
7766 removing a state's ability to protect its residents or
7767 arbitrarily fast-tracking favored projects. This is not
7768 reform. That is regression, and it is dangerous. Cutting
7769 red tape is smart. Cutting corners is reckless.
7770 Environmental reviews and community input are not obstacles.
7771 They are obligations. We can build faster and build smarter,
7772 but we cannot allow the pay-to-play politics we saw in the
7773 permitting provisions of the Republicans' reconciliation bill
7774 to undermine public trust and public health.

7775 If we truly believe in the free market, then every
7776 project, whether clean or conventional, must be judged on its
7777 merits, not on the size of a checkbook or the whim of the
7778 current administration. America's energy future must be
7779 balanced, resilient, and just. That means protecting
7780 workers, empowering innovation, and refusing to sacrifice
7781 communities, especially those historically left behind on the
7782 altar of expedience.

7783 I invite my Republican colleagues to join me in pursuing
7784 real bipartisan permitting reform that works for
7785 transmission, conventional energy, and renewables. Let's

7786 work together to build an energy infrastructure of the
7787 future. But let's do it in the right way. With speed, yes,
7788 but also with integrity, taking in mind that communities that
7789 have been historically left behind are ones that don't always
7790 get the opportunity to have a seat at the table. Well, guess
7791 what? We are their people at the table fighting for them,
7792 fighting for those communities that have been marginalized,
7793 that cannot afford to let a big checkbook bypass security
7794 measures, that cannot let a big checkbook ignore the safety
7795 valves that so many of these communities depend on.

7796 Yes, we want to expedite programs, projects, and
7797 permits, but we cannot sacrifice safety. We cannot sacrifice
7798 what is important to making sure that all of those boxes are
7799 checked. We can do them quickly, we can do them efficiently,
7800 we can get rid of the bureaucracy. But we cannot shortchange
7801 the American people on safety.

7802 I yield.

7803 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. For what purpose
7804 does the gentlelady from Texas seek recognition?

7805 *Mrs. Fletcher. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have an
7806 amendment at the desk.

7807 *Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report the amendment.

7808 *The Clerk. Would the gentlelady please specify the
7809 amendment?

7810 *Mrs. Fletcher. Sure. The amendment is marked

7811 FC_HR3668_4.

7812 *Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report.

7813 *The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 3668 offered by Mrs.

7814 Fletcher. Page 15, after line 9, insert the following. J,

7815 Ensuring FERC's independence.

7816 *Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the reading of the

7817 amendment is dispensed with.

7818 [The amendment of Mrs. Fletcher follows:]

7819

7820 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

7821

7822 *Mr. Joyce. And the gentlelady is recognized for five
7823 minutes to speak in support of her amendment.

7824 *Mrs. Fletcher. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7825 As co-chair of the Natural Gas Caucus, I understand the
7826 need for a clear, durable regulatory framework for natural
7827 gas infrastructure. As a Houstonian, I know many
7828 professionals in the field who call the 7th congressional
7829 district home, and who I am proud to call my neighbors, and I
7830 know that they need regulatory certainty to provide the low-
7831 emission energy to the U.S. and to our allies abroad that we
7832 have been talking about today.

7833 As energy demands increase, as we have discussed
7834 repeatedly on this committee, natural gas will continue to
7835 play a crucial role in ensuring dependable, affordable
7836 electricity. I spoke about the need for durable permitting
7837 reform a little earlier today, so I won't repeat all of that
7838 now, but I want to talk about the bill before us in my
7839 amendment, because among its provisions the bill before us
7840 expands the Federal Energy Regulatory Commissions authority
7841 to act as the sole lead agency for coordinating the
7842 environmental review process for natural gas pipeline import
7843 and export authorizations.

7844 Congress created FERC in 1977 as a non-partisan,
7845 independent commission tasked with carrying out fundamental
7846 functions that underpin the reliability and safety of our

7847 energy system. On February 18 of this year, President Trump
7848 issued executive order 14215, disingenuously titled,
7849 "Ensuring Accountability for All Agencies.'" This executive
7850 order is really an attack on independent agencies like FERC,
7851 the Federal Trade Commission, the Federal Communications
7852 Commission, and the Securities and Exchange Commission. The
7853 executive order mandates that independent agencies submit
7854 "all proposed and final significant regulatory actions'" for
7855 White House review, and makes President Trump and Attorney
7856 General Pam Bondi the final arbiters on questions of how to
7857 interpret laws for the executive branch.

7858 Just yesterday Axios reported that the White House and
7859 DOGE are examining how to further exert influence over FERC,
7860 and quoted former FERC chair Neil Chatterjee as being worried
7861 about Trump politicizing FERC. Earlier this month the White
7862 House indicated it would refuse to renominate chairman Mark
7863 Christie, who has been a staunch defender of FERC's
7864 independence, coming just weeks after the White House
7865 improperly forced out Commissioner Willie Phillips.

7866 We can't allow political influence to degrade FERC's
7867 operations at this critical moment for our energy security.
7868 If adopted, my amendment would prevent this legislation from
7869 going into effect until President Trump rescinds his
7870 executive order taking power from independent agencies.
7871 Subjecting FERC to political interference from President

7872 Trump or any other president severely damages their ability
7873 to protect ratepayers and to ensure that we can meet growing
7874 energy demand.

7875 Several FERC commissioners have spoken out about the
7876 dangers of this executive order, including former
7877 Commissioner Nora Mead Brownell, who President Bush
7878 appointed, who said -- and I am quoting -- "This
7879 administration seems to be putting itself in the place of
7880 laws passed by Congress and precedent set by the courts
7881 establishing FERC independence. That is unhealthy,
7882 unwarranted, and unprecedented, and it will lead to a great
7883 degree of uncertainty and bad decisions."

7884 President Trump's own former FERC appointee, Allison
7885 Clements, said the executive order is, quote, "flatly and
7886 plainly illegal, and it will not be held up in court."

7887 Joseph Kelliher, also a President Bush appointee, warned
7888 that OMB does not have the capacity or the expertise to
7889 review the roughly 1,500 decisions FERC issues annually.

7890 In March the Energy Subcommittee held a hearing with
7891 regional grid operators to discuss reliability and increasing
7892 energy demand, and every single witness went on the record to
7893 say that a more politicized FERC would make it harder for
7894 them to do their jobs. We need to listen to these experts,
7895 and we need to reject this dangerous executive order.

7896 This executive order is yet another example of President

7897 Trump's agenda to consolidate power, ignoring the cost to
7898 American safety and security, and undermining the democratic
7899 principles of representative government, the people in this
7900 room who are here today and those who created nearly FERC --
7901 who created FERC nearly 50 years ago with the clear intent to
7902 shield independent agencies from political influence.

7903 It took an act of Congress to create FERC, and the
7904 authority to change its operations lies within Congress too,
7905 not the White House. I encourage my colleagues to support my
7906 amendment ensuring FERC's independence to ensure that FERC's
7907 decisions are free from political influence, a topic that we
7908 seem to have had agreement on earlier today.

7909 Thank you, and I yield back.

7910 *Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. The chair
7911 recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. Hudson.

7912 *Mr. Hudson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I appreciate
7913 my colleague from Texas talking about the need -- I believe
7914 she is sincere -- that we do need to meet the energy demand
7915 in this country. I appreciated the comments from my friend
7916 from Louisiana when he talked about the need to cut red tape,
7917 but also making sure that "people with big checkbooks don't
7918 get to skirt the environmental process.'" I agree
7919 completely.

7920 I oppose this amendment, though, because it would
7921 prohibit the bill from going in effect until executive order

7922 14215 is rescinded. Well, this executive order required all
7923 rulemakings, including from independent agencies, to be
7924 consistent with the policies of the president.

7925 Well, this amendment has nothing to do with the
7926 underlying legislation, and the executive order is well
7927 within the authority of the President and the executive
7928 branch. This legislation does not require any rulemakings,
7929 so the amendment doesn't really apply. Instead, this
7930 legislation streamlines the permitting of energy
7931 infrastructure and clarifies that FERC is the lead agency for
7932 NEPA for natural gas pipelines.

7933 The concern was raised earlier that there would be no
7934 environmental protections. But the language of my resolution
7935 -- my legislation preserves the authority of states to raise
7936 legitimate water quality concerns, but prevent states from
7937 using water quality concerns as a pretext to block projects.
7938 The language has no effect on NEPA or any other environmental
7939 laws. As part of FERC's 78 process, applicants are required
7940 to supply FERC with a thorough analysis of the project's
7941 impact on water bodies and quality. NEPA requires FERC to
7942 extensively consider these impacts. And the Natural Gas Act
7943 authorizes FERC to include mitigation conditions in
7944 certificates to reduce project impacts, including on water
7945 quality. Applicants often propose mitigation measures in
7946 their applications to minimize project impacts. FERC

7947 analyzes water quality impacts as part of the NEPA process,
7948 imposes mitigation measures as necessary, and is able to
7949 adequately respond to those concerns as part of the Natural
7950 Gas Act and NEPA review process.

7951 There are plenty of, as my colleague from Louisiana
7952 said, boxes to check to prove that we are not impacting the
7953 water quality. All my legislation says is, in addition to
7954 checking all these boxes, one state shouldn't have the
7955 ability to veto an interstate project of national importance.

7956 So I share my colleague's concerns that we need to make
7957 sure any project doesn't impact the water quality anywhere in
7958 this country. We need to preserve the ability of states to
7959 raise concerns, to provide information to FERC as they make
7960 their decisions. But there is a very long, very thorough,
7961 very detailed process set up in NEPA and the Natural Gas Act,
7962 and FERC -- I have every confidence in FERC to act
7963 independently to follow this process.

7964 All we are trying to do is cut red tape. We are not
7965 taking away any protections. And I would ask my colleagues
7966 to please support this so that we can meet those energy needs
7967 now and in the future.

7968 And with that, Mr. Chair, I will yield back.

7969 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The chair recognizes
7970 the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. Pallone.

7971 *Mr. Pallone. Thank you. I have to disagree with the

7972 gentleman from North Carolina, though, and support
7973 Representative Fletcher's amendment.

7974 Look, what your legislation does, Mr. Hudson, is to
7975 expand FERC's authority to act as the sole lead agency for
7976 coordinating environmental review. It creates a 90-day
7977 deadline for FERC and other Federal agencies to take action
7978 on pipelines or LNG facility permits after the conclusion of
7979 the NEPA process. It removes the state's ability to
7980 determine whether or not a proposed gas pipeline complied
7981 with their clean water laws.

7982 I mean, the bottom line is it is getting -- giving FERC
7983 all these additional powers, taking it away from other
7984 Federal agencies and from the states. And the point, I
7985 think, of the gentlewoman from Texas's amendment is that, if
7986 you buy into this idea under the President's executive order
7987 that he has all the power to make all these decisions, then
7988 there is no independence on FERC's part to carry out what the
7989 gentleman from North Carolina's legislation seeks to
7990 accomplish. And that, to me, is a very dangerous thing.

7991 I think that the -- you know, the -- look, I couldn't
7992 agree more with the point that the gentlewoman from Texas is
7993 making. This committee has to have a broad discussion about
7994 the White House's attack on these independent regulatory
7995 agencies. I am gravely concerned about the attacks on the
7996 independence of FERC, and -- but they are far from the only

7997 commission under attack. The Trump Administration has moved
7998 swiftly to gut the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in direct
7999 violation of the bipartisan ADVANCE Act that we spent so much
8000 time on in this committee last year, yet we sit here with
8001 DOGE and the President thinking that they know better than an
8002 NRC Commissioner originally nominated by the President on how
8003 to make a nuclear reactor safe.

8004 I mean, if you guys think that the President himself or
8005 the people that work at the White House have the expertise on
8006 the -- you know, that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has
8007 or that, you know, the commissioners have that he is getting
8008 rid of, I think you are just kidding yourself. They don't
8009 have that expertise. You know, and that is even without
8010 getting into the illegal firings of commissioners at the FTC,
8011 the Consumer Product Safety Commission, or meddling that the
8012 Administration has done at the Chemical Safety Board or the
8013 Consumer Financial Protection Bureau or the Federal
8014 Communications Commission.

8015 All of these are under attack, and committee Republicans
8016 are sitting on their hands watching as Trump and DOGE
8017 dismantle these regulatory bodies that many of us have spent
8018 our careers working on to empower and protect because we
8019 think they have the expertise that the White House doesn't
8020 have. These agencies keep Americans safe and keep companies
8021 from price-gouging Americans. I hate to think what would

8022 happen if Republicans don't fight back against the Trump
8023 Administration's dismantling of them. That is what is going
8024 on here.

8025 The gentlelady from Texas is right. How on Earth are we
8026 supposed to pass laws further empowering FERC when the White
8027 House is overriding FERC independence every day, and declined
8028 to renominate a Republican chair who happen to be too
8029 protective of the agency's independence, in the White House's
8030 opinion?

8031 So I am sorry, I don't trust President Trump or anyone
8032 in the White House to know how to set electricity rates or
8033 approve oil pipeline prices or regulate gas pipelines. They
8034 don't have that expertise. They have no experience on how to
8035 do these things. The commissioners and the staff at FERC do.
8036 That is why they are independent agencies, but only if we let
8037 them do their job. If we don't -- and that is what is
8038 happening.

8039 The amendment will get us back on track by refusing to
8040 let the law go into effect until the White House retreats
8041 from its illegal assaults on independent commissions. It is
8042 a matter of congressional authority. It should be easy for
8043 everyone to get on board with this amendment, or at least for
8044 everyone who is willing to admit that President Trump can
8045 occasionally do wrong.

8046 I mean, maybe you think he is god-like, but if you

8047 really think that he is -- has the ability to substitute his
8048 opinion for these regulatory agencies, I mean, that makes no
8049 sense to me.

8050 I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

8051 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The gentleman from
8052 California, Mr. Peters, is recognized.

8053 *Mr. Peters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try to be
8054 brief.

8055 I think Representative Fletcher makes a good point. And
8056 it is not about President Trump, it is about any president.
8057 I think, if we took away FERC's independence and they were
8058 subject to President Biden's pause on natural gas, I think
8059 that would upset Republicans in much the same way as we are
8060 concerned over on this side about upsetting the other side of
8061 the applecart. So I think part of what permit reform
8062 ultimately will depend on is our confidence in the
8063 independence of these agencies. And I think all Members of
8064 Congress should stand behind that, because we don't want the
8065 politics of a president to be interfering with the laws that
8066 we set out.

8067 So I think this is a good amendment. I actually think
8068 probably you would get Texas Democrats to vote for this bill
8069 if you would accept the amendment. Maybe that will happen
8070 today.

8071 But I would also just say, to be fair, that I actually

8072 think that Mr. Hudson has done a good job with this to -- as
8073 far as it goes, dealing with constraints on linear
8074 infrastructure. But any big permitting deal is going to have
8075 to deal with transmission. And if we could find a way to
8076 give the same treatment of overhead power lines, linear
8077 infrastructure as we do for pipelines, I think we would
8078 really have a lot more progress than we are going to have
8079 today.

8080 So I would not support this without dealing with the
8081 other linear infrastructure that really cries out for permit
8082 reform, which is high-voltage interregional transmission, and
8083 I look forward to working together on that in the future.

8084 And I yield back.

8085 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. If there is no
8086 further discussion on the amendment, a roll call vote has
8087 been requested. The clerk will call the roll.

8088 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

8089 [No response.]

8090 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?

8091 *Mr. Griffith. No.

8092 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.

8093 Mr. Bilirakis?

8094 [No response.]

8095 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?

8096 *Mr. Hudson. No.

8097 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.
8098 Mr. Carter of Georgia?
8099 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. No.
8100 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes no.
8101 Mr. Palmer?
8102 *Mr. Palmer. No.
8103 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.
8104 Mr. Dunn?
8105 *Mr. Dunn. No.
8106 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.
8107 Mr. Crenshaw?
8108 *Mr. Crenshaw. No.
8109 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.
8110 Mr. Joyce?
8111 *Mr. Joyce. No.
8112 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.
8113 Mr. Weber?
8114 *Mr. Weber. No.
8115 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes no.
8116 Mr. Allen?
8117 *Mr. Allen. No.
8118 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes no.
8119 Mr. Balderson?
8120 *Mr. Balderson. No.
8121 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes no.

8122 Mr. Fulcher?

8123 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher, no.

8124 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes no.

8125 Mr. Pfluger?

8126 *Mr. Pfluger. No.

8127 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes no.

8128 Mrs. Harshbarger?

8129 *Mrs. Harshbarger. No.

8130 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.

8131 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?

8132 [No response.]

8133 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack?

8134 [No response.]

8135 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte?

8136 *Mr. Obernolte. No.

8137 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes no.

8138 Mr. James?

8139 *Mr. James. No.

8140 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes no.

8141 Mr. Bentz?

8142 *Mr. Bentz. No.

8143 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes no.

8144 Mrs. Houchin?

8145 *Mrs. Houchin. No.

8146 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes no.

8147 Mr. Fry?
8148 [No response.]
8149 *The Clerk. Ms. Lee?
8150 [No response.]
8151 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
8152 *Mr. Langworthy. No.
8153 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes no.
8154 Mr. Kean?
8155 *Mr. Kean. No.
8156 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes no.
8157 Mr. Rulli?
8158 *Mr. Rulli. No.
8159 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes no.
8160 Mr. Evans?
8161 *Mr. Evans. No.
8162 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes no.
8163 Mr. Goldman?
8164 *Mr. Goldman. No.
8165 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes no.
8166 Mrs. Fedorchak?
8167 *Mrs. Fedorchak. No.
8168 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.
8169 Mr. Pallone?
8170 *Mr. Pallone. Yes.
8171 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.

8172 Ms. DeGette?
8173 *Ms. DeGette. Aye.
8174 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.
8175 Ms. Schakowsky?
8176 *Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.
8177 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.
8178 Ms. Matsui?
8179 *Ms. Matsui. Aye.
8180 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.
8181 Ms. Castor?
8182 *Ms. Castor. Aye.
8183 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.
8184 Mr. Tonko?
8185 *Mr. Tonko. Aye.
8186 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.
8187 Ms. Clarke?
8188 *Ms. Clarke. Aye.
8189 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.
8190 Mr. Ruiz?
8191 *Mr. Ruiz. Aye.
8192 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.
8193 Mr. Peters?
8194 *Mr. Peters. Aye.
8195 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.
8196 Mrs. Dingell?

8197 *Mrs. Dingell. Aye.
8198 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.
8199 Mr. Veasey?
8200 *Mr. Veasey. Aye.
8201 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.
8202 Ms. Kelly?
8203 *Ms. Kelly. Aye.
8204 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.
8205 Ms. Barragan?
8206 *Ms. Barragan. Aye.
8207 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.
8208 Mr. Soto?
8209 *Mr. Soto. Aye.
8210 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.
8211 Ms. Schrier?
8212 *Ms. Schrier. Aye.
8213 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.
8214 Mrs. Trahan?
8215 *Mrs. Trahan. Aye.
8216 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.
8217 Mrs. Fletcher?
8218 *Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.
8219 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.
8220 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
8221 [No response.]

8222 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
8223 *Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.
8224 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.
8225 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?
8226 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.
8227 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.
8228 Mr. Menendez?
8229 *Mr. Menendez. Aye.
8230 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.
8231 Mr. Mullin?
8232 *Mr. Mullin. Aye.
8233 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.
8234 Mr. Landsman?
8235 *Mr. Landsman. Aye.
8236 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.
8237 Ms. McClellan?
8238 *Ms. McClellan. Aye.
8239 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.
8240 Chairman Guthrie?
8241 *The Chair. No.
8242 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes no.
8243 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Latta recorded?
8244 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta is not recorded.
8245 *Mr. Latta. No.
8246 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.

8247 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mrs. Cammack reported?

8248 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack is not recorded.

8249 *Mrs. Cammack. No.

8250 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes no.

8251 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone else wish to be recorded?

8252 [Pause.]

8253 *Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report the results.

8254 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce, on that vote there were 23 ayes
8255 and 26 noes.

8256 *Mr. Joyce. The amendment is not adopted. Are there
8257 any other amendments?

8258 The gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. Menendez, is
8259 recognized.

8260 *Mr. Menendez. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the
8261 desk labeled FC_HR3668_18.

8262 *Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report the amendment.

8263 *The Clerk. Amendment to H.R. 3668 offered by Mr.
8264 Menendez. Page 15, after line 9, insert the following. J,
8265 Ensuring Pipeline --

8266 *Mr. Joyce. Without objection, the reading of the
8267 amendment is dispensed with.

8268 [The amendment of Mr. Menendez follows:]

8269

8270 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

8271

8272 *Mr. Joyce. And the gentleman is recognized for five
8273 minutes in support of his amendment.

8274 *Mr. Menendez. Thank you. Mr. Chairman, we have heard
8275 a lot about gas pipelines this Congress, how Republicans
8276 think we need to build more of them, how they and the
8277 Administration want to override states' rights to apply their
8278 own clean water laws to the pipelines, and how they think
8279 companies should be able to pay \$10 million to automatically
8280 have their pipeline permits approved.

8281 But what we haven't heard about is safety. I am frankly
8282 shocked that, especially given that Congress is nearly two
8283 years past due on reauthorizing the pipeline safety
8284 activities of the Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety
8285 Administration, or PHMSA -- and that is crazy to me, and it
8286 is concerning. We are two years overdue on reauthorizing
8287 pipeline safety, and Republicans are just talking about
8288 adding more pipelines, rather than anything relating to those
8289 pipelines' safety. And unfortunately, there is a lot to talk
8290 about.

8291 Federal enforcement of pipeline safety fell to record
8292 lows in the first months of the Trump Administration. For
8293 the first time in PHMSA's history, in March, it initiated
8294 zero enforcement actions, zero, none. And I don't think any
8295 of us here believe that is because there is nothing to
8296 enforce. It is because the Trump Administration is once

8297 again turning a blind eye to any bad behavior by fossil fuel
8298 companies.

8299 And in case any of my Republican colleagues doubt those
8300 stats, I would like to insert an article into the record
8301 discussing them titled, "Pipeline Enforcement Plunges in
8302 Trump's First Months.''

8303 *Mr. Joyce. Without objection.

8304 [The information follows:]

8305

8306 *****COMMITTEE INSERT*****

8307

8308 *Mr. Menendez. Thank you. And it gets worse. DOGE
8309 forced out the top career pipeline safety official, and
8310 hasn't given any public indication of how many other PHMSA
8311 employees they forced out, all while the Senate has taken
8312 zero action on the proposed PHMSA head's nomination.

8313 Last January the Biden Administration submitted a final
8314 rule for a leak detection regulation required by the last
8315 reauthorization legislation, a law that President Trump
8316 himself signed. But on his very first day in office, Trump
8317 told the Federal Register not to publish the rule, and it has
8318 been in limbo ever since. And our pipelines aren't getting
8319 any safer.

8320 Just last week PHMSA rescinded its guidelines for how
8321 pipelines should comply with another provision of the most
8322 recent authorization relating to inspection and maintenance
8323 plans, leaving everyone in limbo. The Trump Administration
8324 is simply committed to not complying with the law on pipeline
8325 safety, and this committee apparently has zero interest in
8326 holding him to account. And this is a serious issue and has
8327 real impacts on all of our communities.

8328 Last year there were 13 fatalities in pipeline
8329 incidences across the nation. In April the Keystone pipeline
8330 in North Dakota sprung a leak, causing a serious safety
8331 issue. Five years ago a rupture in a carbon dioxide pipeline
8332 in Mississippi sent 45 people to the hospital.

8333 And just to give that additional color before everybody
8334 gets to turn their head to the issue, I want to read from
8335 this article that describes that incident in Mississippi. An
8336 individual's first thought was a pipeline explosion. He
8337 didn't know what was filling the air, but he called his mom,
8338 Thelma Brown, to warn her to get inside. He told her he was
8339 coming. Brown gathered her young grandchildren and great
8340 grandchildren she was watching, took them into her back
8341 bedroom, and got them -- under the quilt with them and
8342 waited. "They didn't come," Brown says. "Ten minutes. I
8343 knew they would have been here in five minutes, but they
8344 didn't come."

8345 Little did she know her sons and nephew were just down
8346 the road in the Cadillac, unconscious, victims of a mass
8347 poisoning from a carbon dioxide pipeline rupture. As the
8348 carbon dioxide moved through the rural community, more than
8349 200 people evacuated. At least 45 people were hospitalized.
8350 Cars stopped working, hobbling emergency response. People
8351 lay on the ground shaking and unable to breathe. First
8352 responders didn't know what was going on. "It looked like
8353 you were going through the zombie apocalypse." Needless to
8354 say, we have got to get this right.

8355 Mr. Chairman, the pipeline safety authorization expired
8356 633 days ago. This committee has yet to do anything this
8357 Congress to do its duty and kick-start the reauthorization

8358 process. Not a hearing, not a draft bill, nothing. We can't
8359 talk about making it easier to build pipelines until we are
8360 confident that they are actually safe.

8361 My amendment is simple. It would pause enforcement of
8362 this bill until we reauthorize PHMSA's pipeline safety
8363 activities for fiscal year 2026. That is it. It is just
8364 saying in order for this bill to take effect, we have to do
8365 our jobs. That shouldn't be too hard for any of us.

8366 I urge adoption of my amendment, and I yield back.

8367 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The chair recognizes
8368 the gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. Hudson.

8369 *Mr. Hudson. Thank you very much. I wish to speak in
8370 opposition to this amendment. It is more -- I see it really
8371 as nothing more than a delay tactic at this point. It would
8372 prevent H.R. 3668 from taking effect until Congress
8373 reauthorizes PHMSA's safety activities.

8374 Listen, I am glad to see my Democrat colleague's change
8375 of heart on PHMSA reauthorization, because last Congress none
8376 of my colleagues supported -- on the other side of the aisle
8377 voted for our legislation to reauthorize PHMSA. But if my
8378 colleagues are willing to work with me, I would love to work
8379 towards a bipartisan PHMSA reauthorization to make sure that
8380 we keep our nation's pipeline infrastructure updated and
8381 safe. It is past time. And I ask my colleagues, please,
8382 let's come together.

8383 Let's try to do this in a bipartisan way. I think we
8384 can find the path to do it. I think, you know, both sides
8385 have tried to do it alone, the other side in 2020, we tried
8386 last year. Let's try something new, and let's work together.
8387 I invite my colleague who offered the amendment, I would love
8388 to begin discussions with you and see if we can come to some
8389 common ground. I agree with you, pipeline safety is vitally
8390 important, and I think there is some important work to be
8391 done in this reauthorization. I think it would be great if
8392 we could do it together.

8393 But I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment
8394 because this is not the right place to have this played out.
8395 But I look forward to having discussions in the future.

8396 And I yield back. Thank you.

8397 *Mr. Joyce. The gentleman yields. The chair recognizes
8398 the gentlelady from California, Ms. Matsui.

8399 *Ms. Matsui. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I move
8400 to strike the last word and speak in support of this
8401 amendment.

8402 *Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady is recognized.

8403 *Ms. Matsui. It is important that we talk about the
8404 consequences of this bill for everyday people. This bill
8405 strips states of their authority under the Clean Water Act to
8406 stop projects that harm water quality. That puts my
8407 constituents and communities across the country at serious

8408 risk. This is about clean water, one of the most important
8409 foundations of public health.

8410 Yesterday, with the limited time he would give us,
8411 Secretary Kennedy sat there and told us environmental factors
8412 impact health. And my Republican colleagues agreed with him.
8413 But your actions don't match your words. The Secretary's own
8414 MAHA report identified the aggregation of environmental
8415 chemicals as a driver of chronic diseases and obesity,
8416 particularly among children. Then the NIH terminated grants
8417 for public drinking water contaminants and infant health,
8418 pesticide exposure, and child respiratory health, exposure to
8419 metals and metal mixtures on late-life cognitive health, and
8420 more. And here you are, pushing a bill that guts the Clean
8421 Water Act, doubling down on a strategy that will make kids
8422 sick. Sadly, this is nothing new, and it is an astounding
8423 hypocrisy.

8424 In California we understand just how essential clean
8425 water is. It fuels our communities, powers our economy, and
8426 grows the fresh produce that sits -- ends up on the kitchen
8427 tables across the country. Clean water is not something we
8428 take for granted. We spent decades managing our water
8429 responsibly, and we are not about to let Republicans
8430 undermine that.

8431 I urge my colleagues to stop undermining public health
8432 protections and oppose this bill.

8433 And I yield back the balance of my time.

8434 *Mr. Joyce. The gentlelady yields. If there is no
8435 further discussion, the vote occurs on the amendment. A roll
8436 call vote has been requested. The clerk will call the roll.

8437 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

8438 [No response.]

8439 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?

8440 [No response.]

8441 *The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis?

8442 [No response.]

8443 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?

8444 *Mr. Hudson. No.

8445 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.

8446 Mr. Carter of Georgia?

8447 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. No.

8448 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes no.

8449 Mr. Palmer?

8450 *Mr. Palmer. No.

8451 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.

8452 Mr. Dunn?

8453 *Mr. Dunn. No.

8454 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.

8455 Mr. Crenshaw?

8456 *Mr. Crenshaw. No.

8457 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.

8458 Mr. Joyce?

8459 *Mr. Joyce. No.

8460 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.

8461 Mr. Weber?

8462 *Mr. Weber. No way.

8463 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes no.

8464 Mr. Allen?

8465 *Mr. Allen. No.

8466 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes no.

8467 Mr. Balderson?

8468 *Mr. Balderson. No.

8469 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes no.

8470 Mr. Fulcher?

8471 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher is no.

8472 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes no.

8473 Mr. Pfluger?

8474 [No response.]

8475 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger?

8476 *Mrs. Harshbarger. No.

8477 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes no.

8478 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?

8479 [No response.]

8480 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte?

8481 *Mr. Obernolte. No.

8482 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes no.

8483 Mr. James?
8484 *Mr. James. No.
8485 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes no.
8486 Mr. Bentz?
8487 *Mr. Bentz. No.
8488 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes no.
8489 Mrs. Houchin?
8490 [No response.]
8491 *The Clerk. Mr. Fry?
8492 [No response.]
8493 *The Clerk. Ms. Lee?
8494 [No response.]
8495 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
8496 *Mr. Langworthy. No.
8497 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes no.
8498 Mr. Kean?
8499 *Mr. Kean. No.
8500 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes no.
8501 Mr. Rulli?
8502 *Mr. Rulli. No.
8503 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes no.
8504 Mr. Evans?
8505 *Mr. Evans. No.
8506 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes no.
8507 Mr. Goldman?

8508 *Mr. Goldman. No.
8509 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes no.
8510 Mrs. Fedorchak?
8511 *Mrs. Fedorchak. No.
8512 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes no.
8513 Mr. Pallone?
8514 *Mr. Pallone. Aye.
8515 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.
8516 Ms. DeGette?
8517 *Ms. DeGette. Aye.
8518 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.
8519 Ms. Schakowsky?
8520 *Ms. Schakowsky. Aye.
8521 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.
8522 Ms. Matsui?
8523 *Ms. Matsui. Aye.
8524 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.
8525 Ms. Castor?
8526 *Ms. Castor. Aye.
8527 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.
8528 Mr. Tonko?
8529 *Mr. Tonko. Aye.
8530 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.
8531 Ms. Clarke?
8532 *Ms. Clarke. Aye.

8533 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.
8534 Mr. Ruiz?
8535 *Mr. Ruiz. Aye.
8536 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.
8537 Mr. Peters?
8538 *Mr. Peters. Aye.
8539 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.
8540 Mrs. Dingell?
8541 *Mrs. Dingell. Aye.
8542 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.
8543 Mr. Veasey?
8544 *Mr. Veasey. Aye.
8545 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.
8546 Ms. Kelly?
8547 *Ms. Kelly. Aye.
8548 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.
8549 Ms. Barragan?
8550 *Ms. Barragan. Aye.
8551 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.
8552 Mr. Soto?
8553 *Mr. Soto. Aye.
8554 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.
8555 Ms. Schrier?
8556 *Ms. Schrier. Aye.
8557 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.

8558 Mrs. Trahan?
8559 *Mrs. Trahan. Aye.
8560 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.
8561 Mrs. Fletcher?
8562 *Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.
8563 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.
8564 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
8565 [No response.]
8566 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
8567 *Mr. Auchincloss. Aye.
8568 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes aye.
8569 Mr. Carter of Louisiana?
8570 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Aye.
8571 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes aye.
8572 Mr. Menendez?
8573 *Mr. Menendez. Aye.
8574 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes aye.
8575 Mr. Mullin?
8576 *Mr. Mullin. Aye.
8577 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.
8578 Mr. Landsman?
8579 *Mr. Landsman. Aye.
8580 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes aye.
8581 Ms. McClellan?
8582 *Ms. McClellan. Aye.

8583 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes aye.
8584 Chairman Guthrie?
8585 *The Chair. No.
8586 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes no.
8587 *Mr. Latta. Mr. Chairman?
8588 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Latta recorded?
8589 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta is not recorded.
8590 *Mr. Latta. No.
8591 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.
8592 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Griffith recorded?
8593 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith is not recorded.
8594 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mr. Pfluger reported?
8595 *Mr. Griffith. No.
8596 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.
8597 Mr. Pfluger is not recorded.
8598 *Mr. Pfluger. No.
8599 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger --
8600 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mrs. --
8601 *The Clerk. -- votes no.
8602 *Mr. Joyce. -- Houchin recorded?
8603 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin is not recorded.
8604 *Mrs. Houchin. No.
8605 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes no.
8606 *Mr. Joyce. Does anyone else wish to be recorded?
8607 The clerk will call the roll -- report the roll.

8608 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce, on that vote there were 23 ayes
8609 and 25 noes.

8610 *Mr. Joyce. The amendment is not agreed to. Are there
8611 any further amendments?

8612 Seeing none, the question now occurs on approving H.R.
8613 3668. All -- a roll call vote has been requested. The clerk
8614 will call the roll.

8615 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta?

8616 *Mr. Latta. Aye.

8617 *The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

8618 Mr. Griffith?

8619 *Mr. Griffith. Aye.

8620 *The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

8621 Mr. Bilirakis?

8622 [No response.]

8623 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?

8624 *Mr. Hudson. Aye.

8625 *The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

8626 Mr. Carter of Georgia?

8627 *Mr. Carter of Georgia. Aye.

8628 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Georgia votes aye.

8629 Mr. Palmer?

8630 *Mr. Palmer. Aye.

8631 *The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

8632 Mr. Dunn?

8633 *Mr. Dunn. Aye.
8634 *The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.
8635 Mr. Crenshaw?
8636 [No response.]
8637 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce?
8638 *Mr. Joyce. Aye.
8639 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.
8640 Mr. Weber?
8641 *Mr. Weber. Aye.
8642 *The Clerk. Mr. Weber votes aye.
8643 Mr. Allen?
8644 *Mr. Allen. Aye.
8645 *The Clerk. Mr. Allen votes aye.
8646 Mr. Balderson?
8647 *Mr. Balderson. Aye.
8648 *The Clerk. Mr. Balderson votes aye.
8649 Mr. Fulcher?
8650 *Mr. Fulcher. Fulcher, aye.
8651 *The Clerk. Mr. Fulcher votes aye.
8652 Mr. Pfluger?
8653 *Mr. Pfluger. Aye.
8654 *The Clerk. Mr. Pfluger votes aye.
8655 Mrs. Harshbarger?
8656 *Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.
8657 *The Clerk. Mrs. Harshbarger votes aye.

8658 Mrs. Miller-Meeks?
8659 *Mrs. Miller-Meeks. Aye.
8660 *The Clerk. Mrs. Miller-Meeks votes aye.
8661 Mrs. Cammack?
8662 [No response.]
8663 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte?
8664 *Mr. Obernolte. Aye.
8665 *The Clerk. Mr. Obernolte votes aye.
8666 Mr. James?
8667 *Mr. James. Aye.
8668 *The Clerk. Mr. James votes aye.
8669 Mr. Bentz?
8670 *Mr. Bentz. Aye.
8671 *The Clerk. Mr. Bentz votes aye.
8672 Mrs. Houchin?
8673 *Mrs. Houchin. Aye.
8674 *The Clerk. Mrs. Houchin votes aye.
8675 Mr. Fry?
8676 [No response.]
8677 *The Clerk. Ms. Lee?
8678 [No response.]
8679 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy?
8680 *Mr. Langworthy. Aye.
8681 *The Clerk. Mr. Langworthy votes aye.
8682 Mr. Kean?

8683 *Mr. Kean. Aye.
8684 *The Clerk. Mr. Kean votes aye.
8685 Mr. Rulli?
8686 *Mr. Rulli. Aye.
8687 *The Clerk. Mr. Rulli votes aye.
8688 Mr. Evans?
8689 *Mr. Evans. Aye.
8690 *The Clerk. Mr. Evans votes aye.
8691 Mr. Goldman?
8692 *Mr. Goldman. Aye.
8693 *The Clerk. Mr. Goldman votes aye.
8694 Mrs. Fedorchak?
8695 *Mrs. Fedorchak. Aye.
8696 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fedorchak votes aye.
8697 Mr. Pallone?
8698 *Mr. Pallone. No.
8699 *The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.
8700 Ms. DeGette?
8701 *Ms. DeGette. No.
8702 *The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.
8703 Ms. Schakowsky?
8704 *Ms. Schakowsky. No.
8705 *The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.
8706 Ms. Matsui?
8707 *Ms. Matsui. No.

8708

8709 *The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.

8710 Ms. Castor?

8711 *Ms. Castor. No.

8712 *The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.

8713 Mr. Tonko?

8714 [No response.]

8715 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko?

8716 *Mr. Tonko. No.

8717 *The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.

8718 Ms. Clarke?

8719 *Ms. Clarke. No.

8720 *The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.

8721 Mr. Ruiz?

8722 *Mr. Ruiz. No.

8723 *The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.

8724 Mr. Peters?

8725 *Mr. Peters. No.

8726 *The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.

8727 Mrs. Dingell?

8728 *Mrs. Dingell. No.

8729 *The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.

8730 Mr. Veasey?

8731 *Mr. Veasey. No.

8732 *The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.

8733 Ms. Kelly?
8734 *Ms. Kelly. No.
8735 *The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.
8736 Ms. Barragan?
8737 *Ms. Barragan. No.
8738 *The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.
8739 Mr. Soto?
8740 *Mr. Soto. No.
8741 *The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.
8742 Ms. Schrier?
8743 *Ms. Schrier. No.
8744 *The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.
8745 Mrs. Trahan?
8746 [No response.]
8747 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher?
8748 *Mrs. Fletcher. No.
8749 *The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.
8750 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
8751 [No response.]
8752 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss?
8753 [No response.]
8754 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana?
8755 *Mr. Carter of Louisiana. No.
8756 *The Clerk. Mr. Carter of Louisiana votes no.
8757 Mr. Menendez?

8758 *Mr. Menendez. No.
8759 *The Clerk. Mr. Menendez votes no.
8760 Mr. Mullin?
8761 *Mr. Mullin. No.
8762 *The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.
8763 Mr. Landsman?
8764 *Mr. Landsman. No.
8765 *The Clerk. Mr. Landsman votes no.
8766 Ms. McClellan?
8767 *Ms. McClellan. No.
8768 *The Clerk. Ms. McClellan votes no.
8769 Chairman Guthrie?
8770 *The Chair. Aye.
8771 *The Clerk. Chairman Guthrie votes aye.
8772 *Mr. Auchincloss. How is Auchincloss recorded?
8773 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss is not recorded.
8774 *Mr. Auchincloss. I will be no.
8775 *The Clerk. Mr. Auchincloss votes no.
8776 *Mr. Crenshaw. How is Crenshaw recorded?
8777 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw is not recorded.
8778 *Mr. Crenshaw. Votes yes.
8779 *The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.
8780 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mrs. Cammack reported?
8781 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack is not recorded.
8782 *Mrs. Cammack. Aye.

8783 *The Clerk. Mrs. Cammack votes aye.

8784 *Mr. Joyce. How is Mrs. Trahan reported?

8785 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan is not recorded.

8786 *Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.

8787 *The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.

8788 [Pause.]

8789 *Mr. Joyce. The clerk will report.

8790 *The Clerk. Mr. Joyce, on that vote there were 27 ayes
8791 and 23 noes.

8792 *Mr. Joyce. The ayes have it. The bill is adopted.

8793 Without objection, the staff is authorized to make
8794 technical and conforming changes to the legislation approved
8795 by the committee today.

8796 So ordered.

8797 Without objection, the committee stands adjourned.

8798 [Whereupon, at 4:02 p.m., the committee was adjourned.]