

Chairman Robert Latta
Opening Statement—Full Committee Markup
June 25, 2025

As prepared for delivery

Welcome to today's full committee markup of 13 bills to restore American energy dominance and address the ongoing reliability crisis facing our nation.

During the 119th Congress, this committee received extensive testimony regarding systemic problems that are undermining our energy system and the grave national and economic security implications for failed US leadership.

Over the next 10 years, 115 gigawatts of dispatchable generation have announced retirement while demand is estimated to increase by upwards of 151 gigawatts.

The free world is watching, and the bills before us today take us one step closer to re-affirming American energy dominance.

This includes the Reliable Power Act to empower FERC as a reliability cop on the beat for the federal government and the GRID Power Act to prioritize resources in the queue that are necessary for maintaining reliability and stability of the bulk power system.

While it is necessary to prevent a future Clean Power Plan 3.0, several states have taken it upon themselves to continue driving premature retirements of baseload generation.

That is why the State Energy Accountability Act and the State Planning for Reliability and Affordability Act will bring additional transparency and accountability to state actions that undermine access to reliable energy.

To provide FERC with an additional tool to address reliability challenges, the Power Plant Reliability Act provides an enhanced pathway to securing the electric grid in the event of a premature closure.

We are also considering the Improving Interagency Coordination for Review of Natural Gas Pipelines Act, the Unlocking our Domestic LNG Potential Act of 2025, my REFINER Act, and the Promoting Cross-Border Energy Infrastructure Act.

Together, these bills will unleash our abundant natural resources and establish more efficient processes for the delivery of energy supplies needed to power our next generation industries.

One bill that is not on our markup is the Expediting Generator Interconnection Procedures Act, introduced by my colleague from Florida's 14th district and Ranking Member of our energy subcommittee.

While our staffs continue having conversations about the legislation, the bill in its current form mandates aggressive reforms to the interconnection process before FERC has even fully implemented Order 2023, which already included important queue reforms.

I am also concerned that many of the provisions were already considered and set aside in the development of Order 2023 because of opposition from grid operators, rural co-ops, and other affected stakeholders.

I commit to continuing to work across the aisle to improve our understanding of needed interconnection queue reforms.

Altogether, the bills under consideration today take an important step forward in re-affirming American energy dominance for years to come and addressing the ongoing reliability crisis facing our nation.

I yield back.