

## **Opening Statement for Energy & Power Subcommittee markup of H.R. 3826, the Electricity Security and Affordability Act**

Thank you, Chairman Whitfield, for holding this markup. I am proud to say that I am an original cosponsor of the Electricity Security and Affordability Act, and therefore urge support for the bill. It's good that we are considering this legislation at a time when the Obama Administration seeks to implement its Climate Action Plan and other radical global warming regulations through administrative rules. As our economy continues to struggle under the Obama Administration, government mandates that will lead to higher electricity costs are not the answer. We need common-sense solutions that will lower energy costs and get our economy back on track.

The Electricity Security and Affordability Act is exactly that. First, if new rules regulating greenhouse gas emissions are promulgated under Section 111 of the Clean Air Act for fossil fuel-fired power plants, separate categories must be created for coal and for natural gas. In addition, it must be shown that the standards laid out have been achieved at power plants in the United States that are representative of the power plant fleet and that have been commercially operable for at least one year.

Under the bill, Congress also would have to set an effective date for any rule or guidelines issued under Section 111 and receive a report from the EPA Administrator with the text of the rule or guideline, the economic impacts of it and the projected reduction in GHG emissions to be accomplished by the rule.

These reforms will ensure that new rules, if they are issued, are proven to be achievable, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on this important legislation.

