

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115
Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3641

May 15, 2015

Ms. Elizabeth Noll
Energy Efficiency Advocate
Natural Resources Defense Council
1152 15th Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Noll:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy and Power on April 30, 2015, to testify at the hearing entitled "Strategic Petroleum Reserve Discussion Draft and Title IV Energy Efficiency."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Monday, June 1, 2015. Your responses should be mailed to Will Batson, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 and e-mailed to Will.Batson@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Ed Whitfield
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Power

cc: The Honorable Bobby L. Rush, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy and Power

Attachment—Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.

As the largest building owner, the efficiency of federal government buildings is crucial to reducing carbon emissions in the United States. Section 433 of the Energy Independence and Security Act requires new and substantially rebuilt federal buildings to meet strong efficiency performance standards to reduce the use of energy generated from fossil fuels. This provision was intended to reduce carbon pollution by promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy in government buildings in a common-sense and reasonable manner. And DOE is currently in the process of developing a rule to implement these important standards.

1. Please briefly discuss DOE's revised regulations:
 - a. Does the revised regulations address concerns previously raised by stakeholders?
 - b. Has the Department worked with interested stakeholders to ensure the rule is practical, reasonable, and effective?

If enacted, section 4115 of the draft would repeal the fossil fuel use reduction requirements under section 433. This provision is based on the premise that these efficiency requirements are unreasonable and unworkable. However the private sector has made great strides in achieving, and in some cases surpassing, the goals of section 433.

2. Is it premature to write off this provision as unworkable before DOE completes its rulemaking?
3. Should the federal government be leading by example in this area?