

**Opening Statement of the Honorable Fred Upton**  
**Subcommittee on Energy**  
**Markup of “H.R. 2786, H.R. 2883, H.R. 2910, H.R.\_\_\_\_,**  
**Hydropower Policy Modernization Act, and H.R.\_\_\_\_,**  
**Enhancing State Energy Security Planning and Emergency**  
**Preparedness Act of 2017”**  
**June 22, 2017**

*(As prepared for delivery)*

Today’s markup will include five important energy infrastructure-related bills dealing with hydropower, pipelines, electric transmission, and grid security.

As we always strive to do, these bills have been drafted with bipartisan input and in large part we’re picking up where we left off with on last year’s energy bill conference.

We have legislation introduced by Mr. Hudson and Ms. Degette to promote small conduit hydropower; a bill introduced by Mr. Hudson and Mr. Mullin promoting cross-border energy infrastructure; a bill introduced by Mr. Flores promoting interagency coordination for review of natural gas pipelines; and a discussion draft sponsored by Ms. Cathy McMorris Rodgers to modernize the licensing process for hydropower projects. We’re also taking up a new discussion draft that I am leading to enhance State energy security planning and emergency preparedness.

This bipartisan discussion draft builds upon the Committee’s impressive record of addressing energy security, emergency preparedness, job creation, and infrastructure protection. Through the FAST Act of 2015, we made several policy updates to reflect evolving cybersecurity threats to the nation’s energy and electricity systems, including greater DOE authority to respond to emergencies. The “Enhancing State Energy Security Planning and

Emergency Preparedness Act” improves the energy emergency planning function established under a 1990 amendment to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act. Prioritizing and elevating energy security planning and emergency preparedness is an important and timely step in the face of increased risks and interdependencies of energy infrastructure and end-use systems. I look forward to continuing to work across the aisle as we move forward in finalizing this important bill.

Today’s Subcommittee markup is an important step toward modernizing our nation’s infrastructure and breaking down barriers to job growth and economic development.

Our discussion drafts remain a work in progress. I look forward to engaging with each member of the Committee to further perfect the bills. I look forward to building on this momentum as we work to find other areas of bipartisan agreement.