

Opening Statement of Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Subcommittee on Energy
“Reviving our Economy: COVID-19’s Impact on the Energy Sector”
June 16, 2020

As Prepared for Delivery

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to our panel.

Like many industries, the energy sector has been significantly hurt by the economic crisis brought on by the Coronavirus pandemic.

For our economy to boom again and for America to win the future, we must focus on sustainable, efficient, and pragmatic policy solutions that will not only enable our energy sector to survive the immediate crisis but thrive in the next era of American leadership.

This pandemic has underscored that the world should not be led by the Chinese Communist Party.

As we’ve seen time and again, the CCP will do whatever it takes to get ahead and lie, cheat, and steal their way to global power, with no regard for human rights, IP, or the environment.

We cannot and shouldn’t try to beat them at their own game by picking winners and losers by subsidizing companies or technologies.

Instead, we must foster American ingenuity by unleashing innovation and lifting the regulatory and tax burden.

Our ability for people to take risks, innovate, and make an idea a success has made America the global economic leader for the past century. This same strategy will help us solve the global climate crisis **and** ensure abundant, efficient, and reliant energy sources meet the needs of future generations.

The strongest way to make significant progress on reducing emissions globally--- without further harming our own domestic economic production--- is through tech innovations in clean energy and storage that are efficient and cost effective enough to export globally to developing nations.

Whether it's our ability to expand hydropower capacity export nuclear technology license new advanced reactors, or develop more efficient methods of energy storage we shouldn't let burdensome, outdated regulations stifle innovation. Doing so will empower Chinese leadership and harm global efforts to reduce emissions for a cleaner environment.