

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH 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

November 29, 2021

Mr. James Strong
Assistant to the Director, District 8
United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service
Workers International Union
85 C. Michael Davenport Boulevard, Suite B
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Mr. Strong:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy on Thursday, October 21, at the hearing entitled “Offshore Wind, Onshore Benefits: Growing the Domestic Wind Energy Industry.” I appreciate the time and effort you gave as a witness before the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Pursuant to Rule 3 of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, members are permitted to submit additional questions to the witnesses for their responses, which will be included in the hearing record. Attached are questions directed to you from certain members of the Committee. In preparing your answers to these questions, please address your responses to the member who has submitted the questions in the space provided.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please submit your responses to these questions no later than the close of business on Monday, December 13, 2021. As previously noted, this transmittal letter and your responses, as well as the responses from the other witnesses appearing at the hearing, will all be included in the hearing record. Your written responses should be transmitted by e-mail in the Word document provided to Lino Peña-Martinez, Policy Analyst, at Lino.Pena-Martinez@mail.house.gov. To help in maintaining the proper format for hearing records, please use the document provided to complete your responses.

Mr. James Strong

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Thank you for your prompt attention to this request. If you need additional information or have other questions, please contact Lino Peña-Martinez with the Committee staff at (202) 225-2927.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Frank Pallone, Jr." in a cursive style.

Frank Pallone, Jr.

Chairman

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy

The Honorable Fred Upton
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy

Attachment—Additional Questions for the Record

**Subcommittee on Energy
Hearing on
“Offshore Wind, Onshore Benefits: Growing the Domestic Wind Energy Industry”
Thursday, October 21, 2021**

James Strong, Assistant to the Director, District 8, United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service, Workers International Union

The Honorable Kurt Schrader (D-OR)

1. Mr. Strong: Jobs should be a key concern when we're planning investments in offshore wind energy projects. We need to make sure that those investments pay dividends in the form of well-paid, long-term, and—ideally—union jobs for working families in coastal communities like those in my district. What kind of jobs can we expect offshore wind projects to create at the installation, operation, and maintenance phases? What education, skills, training, and experience will they require? And how long will they last? Moreover, what can—and should—we do now to promote strong, cohesive, and mutually beneficial labor-industry partnerships on offshore wind projects in the future?

RESPONSE:

Thank you for this question. We agree that jobs and the quality of those jobs should be a key consideration in advancing the growth of the offshore wind industry. Although there will be a need for engineers and other white-collar workers, the vast majority of the jobs will be blue collar jobs. Of course, most people think about the construction jobs that will be created during installation. However, we also must consider the potential for many more manufacturing jobs, some located in coastal communities but also further inland. If developers and OEMs source domestically to reach the Biden Administration's goal of 30GW by 2030, there is potential for many jobs over the next 10 years in the supply chain for offshore wind, not to mention the building of ships and rehabbing ports to ready them for the offshore wind industry.

In the manufacturing realm, there are a variety of basic industrial skills that will be needed in addition to specialized training, like welding. In my experience, labor-management training partnerships are very effective in recruiting workers and ensuring that they have the necessary skills. Congress should incentivize those partnerships based around training. We should also place renewed emphasis on low- or no-cost vocational training for students in their teens and early twenties.