

Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Opening Statement—Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid
Security:
“The Fiscal Year 2025 Department of Energy Budget”
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Secretary Granholm, welcome back.

Today is an opportunity to discuss the President’s budget and priorities for the Department of Energy.

This committee plays a critical role in ensuring U.S. energy security and leadership.

For decades, America has led the way.

We’ve harnessed the power of nuclear energy, electrified millions of rural American’s homes with clean hydropower, and ushered in the Shale Revolution...

... creating millions of new jobs and powering economic prosperity.

America was able to achieve this through free market principles, entrepreneurship, and giving people the opportunity to choose which energy sources best suit their needs.

Energy and Commerce Republicans have been working to protect and expand this legacy for generations to come.

The Biden Administration, on the other hand...

...is working to dismantle that legacy.

This Administration’s policies continue to put America on a dangerous path that harms our security and gives our adversaries, like China, control over our energy supply chains.

This Administration has consistently sought to prevent or slow development of American oil and gas resources, which are critical to our own energy security as well as the security of our allies.

DOE has been complicit in this with actions like the effective ban on new LNG exports.

American LNG has been a lifeline, especially to our European allies, since Russia invaded Ukraine.

In the aftermath of the invasion, American LNG helped them reduce their natural gas prices by over 83% and reduce their dependence on Russia.

This ban sent a signal to our allies that we're no longer a dependable energy partner.

This is unacceptable.

Another example is the recent decision to limit energy development in more than half the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska.

Doubling down on policies to restrict oil and gas, to retire baseload power generation, and to promote widespread, unaffordable and unreliable electrification is not how we secure our energy future.

Americans are already feeling the impacts of this radical rush-to-green agenda.

Since the Biden Administration took office, .

That's almost 50% more than overall inflation.

Unilateral actions like those taken by the administration continue to drive out affordable, reliable baseload generation needed to keep prices low and keep the lights on.

Grid operators and others have been sounding the alarm for years, warning that the U.S. is on a dangerous and unsustainable path.

Continuing down this path will mean higher energy prices and more catastrophic blackouts across the country like what's already happening in places like California.

As the head of DOE, it is the Secretary's responsibility to ensure American energy security and leadership.

Yet this department continues to stand by and watch as EPA imposes requirements that harm our ability to generate reliable power.

Is the Department ceding its energy and grid expertise to the EPA?

EPA policies like their new particulate matter standards will make permitting new manufacturing and industry almost impossible in large regions of the country.

I'd like to understand why DOE thinks we can succeed under these anti-manufacturing, frankly anti-American policies...

...which are undermining the very manufacturing programs DOE supports to help restore American leadership in critical energy materials and to reduce reliance on China.

Instead of undermining American energy and economic success, we need to be working to build on our remarkable legacy, which has transformed the human condition, helped lift people out of poverty, and raised the standard of living.

The best way to do this is with a strong energy mix that takes advantage of the resources we have here at home, lowers costs for Americans, and prevents us from becoming reliant on China for our energy needs.

This administration's forced transition will leave our economy dangerously dependent on supply chains from China, and make energy less affordable and less reliable for Americans.

I believe DOE can serve a critical role in assuring sound energy policies, while also providing the support necessary for innovation to flourish.

DOE must step up.

I look forward to discussing how we can work to ensure this.

I yield back.