

Chairman Brett Guthrie
Opening Statement—Subcommittee on Energy:
“Powering America’s Future: Unleashing American Energy”
February 5, 2025
As prepared for delivery

Thank you, Chairman Latta. I look forward to your strong and able guidance of the Energy Subcommittee this Congress.

I also look forward to the contributions of our new Members, on both sides of the aisle, to the important issues this subcommittee must confront and the work that we will do during the 119th Congress.

The availability, the affordability, and the reliability of American energy and its delivery systems is fundamental to enabling our nation to make and do things—to grow manufacturing, advance AI, heat our homes, fuel our cars, and produce the goods and services we all rely upon.

Energy is essential to strengthening America’s national security and to supporting the security of our allies.

So, our work this Congress will aim to enable the nation to grow, prosper, and assert global leadership in an adversarial world. And we will work hard to improve the lives and economic security of those in the communities we represent.

Today’s hearing opens our discussion of the reforms needed to usher in a golden age of American energy.

We will explore the benefits of—and the urgent need for—energy policies of abundance and dominance.

Importantly, the hearing will also provide a launching point for our exploration of the enormous demand for energy being driven by artificial intelligence and next generation computing.

We will look at how responsible stewardship of our tremendous oil and gas resources—and the infrastructure to deliver those resources—will support new industries and manufacturing.

Further, today we will continue to make the case for American leadership in energy production and technology to support our allies—including through the export of LNG, advanced gas turbines, and nuclear.

Working with the Trump Administration, we must reverse the mindset that our energy future, our global energy future, is one of less energy supply driven by a massive, abrupt transition to renewable energy.

The harmful results of policies reflecting this mindset have become clearer every year, here in America and in Europe.

By now, we all have seen the increasing strains on our electric grid, including failure to provide reliable power utilizing coal, natural gas, and nuclear—when it is needed the most.

Grid and energy experts warn the frequency of these outages will only increase if state and federal renewable energy policies continue to drive the premature retirement of traditional baseload generation.

Now, the new and growing demand for advanced manufacturing capacity and data centers to fuel the AI race have exposed the limits of our current energy systems as well.

This new reality adds to the urgency to look at what is needed to provide the energy we need to compete with China and achieve the tremendous benefits of advanced computing.

We should reject the energy transition mindset and embrace a new paradigm in American energy policy—a paradigm of energy abundance.

I now yield to Vice Chairman Weber.