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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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March 11, 2025

Mr. Brigham A. McCown
Senior Fellow and Director
Initiative on American Energy Security
Hudson Institute
1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Fourth Floor
Washington, DC 20004

Dear McCown:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, to testify at the hearing entitled “Powering America’s Future: Unleashing American Energy.”

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Tuesday, March 25, 2025. Your responses should be mailed to Calvin Huggins Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed to Calvin.Huggins1@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Robert E. Latta". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Latta" clearly legible, and "E." in the middle.

Robert E. Latta
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy

cc: Kathy Castor, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy

Attachment

Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Robert E. Latta

1. How important is strong U.S. nuclear industry infrastructure, including for fuels, for our international relationships?
2. Your testimony underscores the importance of modernizing our infrastructure to ensure we reliably get energy to consumers. As the co-chair of the Grid Innovation Caucus, I am interested in grid enhancing technologies that improve the performance of the transmission system. An example is the use of advanced power conductors that can double capacity of the grid using the same right of way. Please comment on this approach and how it helps ensure we get the most out of the current grid by deploying modern technology?
3. As you note in your testimony, we expect a significant increase in the demand for electricity to address the surge in power needs from AI and data centers. This power needs to be reliable dispatchable generation. We also need as soon as possible more grid capacity to deliver this new generation to data centers and new manufacturing centers. We can't wait ten years to site new transmission. Are there short-term technologies that can be deployed to address this grid congestion problem?
4. We can pursue the innovations that produce cleaner energy, yet should we also pursue policies that put national security and American economic security and competitiveness back at the center of our energy policy?
5. How do LNG exports and nuclear technology exports serve a paradigm of national security and energy security?

The Honorable Gary Palmer

1. How do we utilize hydrocarbon energy as we advance our energy production through nuclear?

The Honorable Lizzie Fletcher

1. In your testimony, you point to U.S. LNG exports to Europe as a key energy lifeline following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Just last month, an agreement allowing roughly half of Russian natural gas to flow through Ukrainian pipelines expired, leaving Europe with about a 5% gap in its supply of natural gas. In each of the past two Congresses, I've led the American Gas for Allies Act, a bill that would allow U.S. projects to receive expedited approval from the Department of Energy to export LNG to NATO member countries. Can you speak to the importance of providing a dependable supply of American energy resources to our European allies from an energy security perspective?