

BRETT GUTHRIE, KENTUCKY
CHAIRMAN

FRANK PALLONE, JR., NEW JERSEY
RANKING MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH 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) 225-3641

Minority (202) 225-2927

March 11, 2025

Mr. Tyler O'Connor
Partner
Crowell & Moring LLP
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

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 that reads "Robert E. Latta". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Latta" being more prominent than the middle initial "E".

Robert E. Latta
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy

cc: Kathy Castor, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy

Attachment

Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Lizzie Fletcher

1. Thank you for your testimony. Sufficient agency staffing and resources are critical for a timely and predictable permitting process for energy projects. I'm already hearing concerns from industry leaders in my district about the impact of President Trump's attack on the federal workforce on the existing permitting process. Largely because of industry input, the IRA and IIJA both included additional funding for the federal permitting workforce to help expedite the review process. The President's executive orders both direct agencies to eliminate delays in the permitting process and withhold these resources. Many key agencies involved in the permitting process are now subject to work stoppages of various degrees and blocks on new permits for energy projects without the express permission of senior officials.
 - a. In your experience, how will President Trump's directives impact permitting for energy projects?
 - b. Could a fraught permitting process lead to litigation risk for crucial energy projects?
2. On February 1, President Trump chose to pick a fight with our two closest trading partners for energy products by announcing a 25% tariff on all goods from Mexico and a 25% tariff on most goods from Canada, with a lower, 10% tariff on energy products from Canada. Canada and Mexico are by far our largest sources of U.S. crude oil imports, accounting for over 4 million barrels per day combined. The Tax Foundation estimates that the tariffs on Canada and Mexico alone will increase taxes by more than \$670 per U.S. household this year. Energy industry analysts also expect fuel prices of everything from gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, and propane to rise as a result of these tariffs. On February 10, President Trump substantially raised tariffs on steel and aluminum imports to a flat 25%, without exceptions or exemptions. This action will undoubtedly ripple through the steel-intensive energy industry, and create further market uncertainty. While I'm glad to see that the tariffs on Canada and Mexico have been delayed, from a long-term investment certainty standpoint, the lack of process, lack of transparency, and abrupt changes in course can be just as harmful as the tariffs themselves. Can you speak to the importance of a stable trade regime for our energy industry?