

**Committee on Energy and Commerce**  
**Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery**  
**of**  
**Subcommittee Member Paul Tonko**  
*Markup of 13 Bills, Subcommittee on Energy*  
**June 5, 2025**

Mr. Chair, I want to express my disappointment with this markup's agenda.

You have held numerous hearings this year to examine how the United States should address growing electricity demand.

And essentially every single witness— whether they testified at the invitation of Republicans or Democrats— agreed on two key policy needs.

First, we need to preserve tax incentives that make it cheaper to build the resources that can be built most quickly.

And second, we need to make it easier to permit, site, and build transmission infrastructure.

On the first point, we know the majority's position— a reconciliation bill that every credible analysis has found is going to raise energy prices for consumers, including commercial and industrial energy users.

On the second issue, there is nothing among the bills today that will allow us to effectively expand our grid infrastructure to better integrate new loads.

And there is nothing to support using our existing grid infrastructure more efficiently.

Instead, we are finding new and unnecessary ways to require consumers to pay more for uncompetitive generators to hang around the system.

This is not the way to achieve what I believe is a shared bipartisan goal of American A.I. leadership.

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This is the wrong approach, and I would implore us to hit the reset button and come together to work on policy solutions that actually address the challenges that will determine whether we are a globally competitive economy in the decades to come.

I yield back.