

Chairman Brett Guthrie
Subcommittee on Energy Hearing:
“Department of Energy FY 27 Budget”
April 16, 2026

Welcome back Secretary Wright. Thank you for joining us today.

Your testimony is especially timely given world events and the impact on energy markets. We look forward to reviewing your work and discussing your priorities amidst these global dynamics.

Nobody can deny that DOE’s core energy and nuclear security mission, its energy emergency responsibilities, and its vast technological capabilities, are critical for the nation right now.

With Iran choking the flow of oil, gas, and other critical products to and from Europe, Asia, and other markets, we are facing the kind of energy emergency for which the Department

was organized almost fifty years ago, just months before Iran's deadly Islamic revolution.

We have all long known about Iran's explicit threat to America and its allies, and now following President Trump's decisive action in the region, our nation, our economy, our security will benefit tremendously. We should appreciate our shared national goals, not denigrate the action for partisan purposes.

Clearly, Iran's disruption of global markets is increasing prices here at home. So understanding how DOE is addressing supply constraints as a result, and how its work will help ensure long-term affordability, will be part of our discussion today.

Of course, this is but one of many pressing issues the agency has been confronting.

China still threatens to disrupt geopolitical relationships around the world and to overtake our technological leadership, particularly in the race to AI dominance and innovation.

And, here at home, our nation still faces tremendous new demand for energy. There's a burning need to revitalize an energy system long suffering from misguided policies that undermine reliable, affordable power and prioritize technologies that depend on taxpayer subsidies and handouts.

As we survey the landscape of energy and technology issues, it is clear success as a nation will not be through the European-style energy transition.

Success requires energy *addition*—building the reliable, affordable systems that leverage our abundant fossil and nuclear energy.

Mr. Secretary, you testified last year that “access to an abundant and reliable energy supply is a key ingredient to unlocking prosperity and ensuring human flourishing and innovation.”

That refreshing and powerful message should be at the center of our nation's energy policy and DOE's technological work. Let's focus today on how best to do this. Thank you and I yield back.