



## NPCA Position on Legislation before the Committee on Natural Resources

December 11, 2023

Dear Representative,

Since 1919, National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) has been the leading voice of the American people in protecting and enhancing our National Park System. On behalf of our 1.6 million members and supporters nationwide, we write to share our thoughts on select legislation ahead of a hearing in the Committee on Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources scheduled for December 12, 2023.

**H.R. 5482, the Energy Poverty Prevention and Accountability Act of 2023** – NPCA **opposes** this legislation, specifically Section 5, which is intended to slow down new regulations in order to continue unfettered extractive energy development on nearby public lands. While the stated goal of this bill is to protect frontline communities and those in need from higher energy costs, nothing in the bill would guarantee that outcome. In fact, the bill does not take into account the costs and benefits of renewable energy including wind and solar for these communities. Renewable energy could have other long term, non-polluting benefits as well. Instead, this bill is a backdoor attempt to slow down the ability of the administration to update regulations including ensuring the taxpayers do not get saddled with the cost of cleaning up extractive development as they do now. Occasionally, the Interior Department uses authority granted in law to conserve land instead of allowing energy development. This bill could allow many places including important wildlife habitat – that many communities depend on for food and subsistence – to be threatened with extractive energy development. We urge you to oppose this bill.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Daniel Hart

Director, Clean Energy and Climate Resiliency Policy

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