

U.S. House of Representatives

Committee on Natural Resources

Washington, DC 20515

December 15, 2023

Dr. J. Mijin Cha
Assistant Professor
University of California Santa Cruz
Environmental Studies Department
1156 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Dear Dr. Cha:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources at a legislative hearing on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, on the following bills:

- **H.R. 5482 (Rep. Hageman)**, “*Energy Poverty Prevention and Accountability Act of 2023*”;
- **H.R. 6474 (Rep. Steel)**, To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to expedite geothermal exploration and development in previously studied or developed areas; and
- **H.R. 6481 (Rep. Hageman)**, To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to reimburse the fee for an expression of interest if the expression of interest becomes inactive, and for other purposes.

Your testimony on H.R. 5482 was extremely helpful in defining the Subcommittee’s understanding of the issue and I appreciate the effort you took to prepare and present your testimony. While many questions were asked during the hearing, the Subcommittee has additional questions, attached, for your reply.

Please forward your responses to Lonnie Smith, Clerk of the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, at Lonnie.smith@mail.house.gov by January 5, 2024. Your assistance in meeting this deadline is requested, as failure to meet it will be noted in the printed transcript.

Once again, thank you for your extensive effort in making this a valuable hearing.

Sincerely,



Pete Stauber
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
Chairman

Enclosure

Committee on Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
Legislative Hearing
1334 Longworth House Office Building
December 12, 2023
10:30 AM

H.R. 5482 (Rep. Hageman), *“Energy Poverty Prevention and Accountability Act of 2023”*;

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H.R. 6481 (Rep. Hageman), To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to reimburse the fee for an expression of interest if the expression of interest becomes inactive, and for other purposes.

Questions from Rep. Dingell for Dr. J. Mijin Cha, Assistant Professor, University of California, Santa Cruz

1. Dr. Cha, does increasing fossil fuel production lead to lower energy costs?
2. Dr. Cha, can you expand on some of the root causes of energy insecurity?
3. Dr. Cha, do you believe HR 5482 “Energy Poverty Prevention and Accountability Act of 2023” addresses those issues?
4. Dr. Cha, can you elaborate about the importance of LIHEAP and whether current funding levels are enough to meet American families’ needs?