FRANK PALLONE, JR., NEW JERSEY
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ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States
## House of Representatives
### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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June 12, 2019

The Honorable Daniel R. Simmons
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Assistant Secretary Simmons:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy on Wednesday, April 10, 2019, at the hearing entitled, "Investing in America's Energy Infrastructure: Improving Energy Efficiency and Creating a Diverse Workforce." We appreciate the time and effort you gave as a witness before the Subcommittee.

Pursuant to Rule 3 of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, members are permitted to submit additional questions to the witnesses for their responses, which will be included in the hearing record. Attached are questions directed to you from certain members of the Committee. In preparing your answers to these questions, please address your responses to the member who has submitted the questions using the Word document provided with this letter.

To facilitate the publication of the hearing record, please submit your responses to these questions no later than the close of business on Thursday, June 27, 2019. As previously noted, this transmittal letter and your responses, as well as the responses from the other witness appearing at the hearing, will all be included in the hearing record. Your written responses should be transmitted by email in the Word document provided with this letter to Omar Guzman-Toro, Policy Analyst with the Committee, at Omar@mail.house.gov. You do not need to send a paper copy of your responses to the Committee. Using the Word document provided for submitting your responses will also help maintain the proper format for incorporating your answers into the hearing record.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request. If you need additional information or have other questions, please have your staff contact Mr. Guzman-Toro at (202) 226-9398.

Sincerely,

Frank Pallone Jr.

Frank Pallone, Jr.
Chairman

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Greg Walden
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy

The Honorable Fred Upton
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy

**Subcommittee on Energy**
**Hearing on**
**"Investing in America's Energy Infrastructure: Improving Energy Efficiency and Creating a Diverse Workforce"**
**April 10, 2019**

**Assistant Secretary Daniel R. Simmons**
**Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**

**The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)**

1. Mr. Simmons: I support EERE's mission to create and sustain American leadership in the transition to a global clean energy economy. I believe we are on the right track, but it will take strong leadership and a commitment to the areas of focus that you laid out in your testimony, especially energy affordability.

    a. Mr. Simmons, I would like for you to talk about the importance of energy affordability. Why did you make this one of your top priorities?

2. Mr. Simmons: There are several bills before us today with the espoused goal of improving efficiency. While I support efficiency and conservation, as we consider these bills I think we need to be mindful of the potential unintended effects.

    a. Is it possible that efficiency mandates could actually make consumer products more expensive? If so, can you share some examples?

    b. Is it possible that a grant or rebate program could actually disincentivize innovation and technological development? If so, can you share some examples?

    c. Mr. Simmons, what factors should Congress consider as we evaluate these bills to set up new programs and encourage efficiency mandates.

**The Honorable David McKinley (R-WV)**

1. Mr. Simmons, in your testimony, you mentioned some of the existing programs EERE has for promoting residential energy efficiency.

    a. In what ways will the Homes Act complement or enhance the work EERE is already doing to promote residential energy efficiency?

    b. Can you explain how you would support this program and the time your office would need to develop the criteria and approvals needed to facilitate the program's execution?

    c. Do you have suggestions for how DOE can best support a robust rebate program?

**The Honorable Richard Hudson (R-NC)**

1. Would you please provide a full audit of all DOE workforce development activities, including a description of the workforce development program or project name, target audience or program focus, funding level, statutory authority, and program status.