

**McKinley Statement for EPA Administrator Budget Hearing
Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee
May 17, 2022**

As Prepared for Delivery

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and welcome back Administrator Regan. America's worst fears are now being realized, pursuing an ideologically driven goal of 100% renewables in such an artificially condensed time frame will cause the grid to collapse.

Last summer, the head of global research at General Electric in New York told Paul Tonko and me unequivocally that this would happen. And now, according to the Wall Street Journal, warnings of electricity shortages are growing across the United States. In the Midwest, Miso is working to prepare for "worst case scenarios" and expect a 5 GW shortfall this summer.

Just last Friday, Texas took steps to reduce strain on the grid, nearly 3 GW of capacity have gone offline because of high temperatures. Even California had to extend the operation of its gas-fired power plants last year; So, what is the EPA doing to preserve and protect our grid? It seems like President Biden and the EPA are increasing regulation instead of addressing the pending crisis we're facing

So rather than ensure a reliable and resilient grid, and keep the lights on across the country, the EPA is requesting almost \$12 billion primarily focused on climate change and environmental justice initiatives. Look- with today's science -renewables simply aren't ready to fully power our grid. According to the Energy Information Administration: Wind only works 35% of the time; and Solar only 25% of the time. The Lawrence Livermore Lab found 81% of wind projects, and 84% of solar projects, have not reached commercial viability. So why does this EPA continue to pursue an agenda that will only take more fossil fuel capacity offline?

Mr. Chairman, the threat of electricity shortages has utilities taking steps to keep aging power plants running longer, but they're fighting regulations, EPA is not being cooperative. And congress has made significant investments over the last two years in carbon capture, like coal first, and net zero. These investments will let us protect our grid. But EPA's agenda doesn't recognize that - you seem to want to fund more climate change and environmental justice programs. Neither of which will lead to grid reliability, only blackouts across the nation, America deserves better. Thank you and I yield back