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HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-4304

May 1, 2025

The Honorable Chris Wright
Secretary of Energy
1000 Independence Ave SW
Washington, D.C. 20024

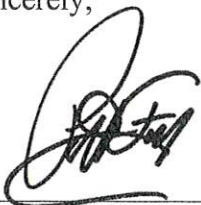
Dear Secretary Wright,

The recent, widespread power outage impacting Spain and Portugal is but the latest reminder that grid resiliency and access to reliable forms of energy are some of our most vital national security concerns. We appreciate DOE's efforts to restore American energy independence and do away with the previous administration's ideologically driven push for renewable mandates. Moreover, the refocusing on reliable forms of energy - particularly natural gas, oil, and coal - is important not only for meeting America's domestic energy needs, but for affording the US leverage on the world stage. The US is no stranger to local and regional power outages. Nevertheless, the prospect of additional widespread outages due to domestic energy policy or a failure to secure our software systems is cause for considerable alarm.

The push in recent decades for renewable mandates has left concern for grid resiliency by the wayside. Whether due to natural phenomena, as was the case in Europe recently, or due to hostile actors, overreliance on weaker solar and wind production is not a serious, widely applicable solution when it comes to powering America. At the same time, we need to ensure our electrical grid can withstand cyberattacks and have a plan of action should it be subject to an EMP attack. No doubt, you, as well as many others in President Trump's administration, share these same concerns and are working to rectify this situation after years of neglect.

Respectfully, we request a briefing by DOE on the state of US grid resiliency, both from an energy use perspective and how secure our electrical grid is in the face of potential cyberattacks by foreign adversaries such as China, Russia, or North Korea. A power outage on the national scale not only would directly endanger Americans, but it would also create an opening for further conventional or digital attacks by our adversaries. We can't afford to leave this to chance, especially when Americans' livelihoods and our national security depends upon it.

Sincerely,



Pat Fallon
Member of Congress