



May 5th, 2025

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources
United States House of Representatives
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Chairman Westerman,

On behalf of Americans for Prosperity grassroots activists across the country, we applaud your efforts to utilize the reconciliation process to deliver a policy of energy abundance for the American people. Now more than ever, the country is at a juncture where it must ensure energy security, ease of permitting, and reliability for Federal lands and waters. For the past 50 years, there has been a trend away from wealth-generating activities in favor of inactivity and complacency. However, the House Natural Resources Committee's reconciliation markup presents an opportunity to reverse this trend and make significant progress for the future.

For Western States and Alaska, reconciliation ensures accountability for oil and gas lease sales on federal lands, returning productivity for taxpayers. Additionally, reasonable royalty rates are reinstated for projects on federal lands that would otherwise not take place. The Committee also continues to ease permitting burdens for geothermal activities on federal lands, providing opportunities for baseload power generation systems. Alaska also receives priority attention for the National Petroleum Reserve and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for lease sales, ensuring the state receives royalty payments for activities within its boundaries.

The Committee markup also builds on American mineral security for projects that are sustainably and appropriately managed for the highest environmental outcomes, including in the Superior National Forest. The Committee markup will also bring assurance to operators utilizing coal-fired units by rescinding Secretarial Order 3338. Especially as new technologies come online to provide baseload power production, the Committee markup corrects efforts to attack technologies that are clean, reliable, and essential to prevent brownouts and blackouts.

The Committee markup returns revenues to taxpayers through the utilization of lease sales in the Outer Continental Shelf. For the last several years, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management has failed to perform Congressionally mandated activities for lease sales in those offshore areas, which should not be locked down. Additionally, the Committee markup moves forest lands within the purview of the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service towards productivity.

Lastly, we are thankful for the courage and leadership shown by the Members of the Committee to concretely move energy abundance to the forefront of the conversation about the future of our country. Within the reconciliation markup, the Committee showcases the best policies to firmly ensure the wealth, security, and prosperity of taxpayers' investments in Federal lands and offshore areas. We urge Members of the Committee to support the underlying reconciliation package as presented.

Sincerely,

Brent Gardner
Chief Government Affairs Officer