

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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May 6, 2024

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Granholm:

As part of a broader investigation into the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP or the Party) political and economic warfare operations against America, the Committee on Oversight and Accountability (Committee) is investigating the CCP's energy and resource warfare against America. Specifically, the Committee seeks information on Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) efforts to secure American energy as the CCP continues to push for domination over U.S. and global energy markets, at great risk to American security.

Broader Committee Investigation

The Committee is conducting oversight of the federal government's work to protect the American people from CCP "political warfare"¹ and nefarious influence operations. For decades, the CCP has sought to infiltrate and influence every aspect of American society.² The CCP's goal is plain: defeat the "main enemy," which counterintelligence officials have identified as America.³ The fronts are multiple; according to the CCP itself: "[t]he battlefield will be everywhere."⁴ And the tools are myriad, with the "united front"⁵ leading as one of the People's

¹ "Political warfare seeks to influence emotions, motives, objective reasoning, and behavior of foreign governments, organizations, groups, and individuals in a manner favorable to one's own political-military objectives." Mark Stokes, *The People's Liberation Army General Political Department: Political Warfare with Chinese Characteristics*, Project 2049 Inst. (Oct. 14, 2013).

² See generally Constantine C. Menges, *China The Gathering Threat* (2005); H.R. Rep. No. 105-851 (1999) ("Cox Report"); Robert Spalding, *War Without Rules* (2022); Col. Grant Newsham, *When China Attacks: A Warning to America* (2023); Kerry K. Gershaneck, *Political Warfare: Strategies for Combating China's Plan to "Win without Fighting"* (2020); see also Larry Diamond and Orville Schell, *China's Influence & America's Interests: Promoting Constructive Vigilance*, Hoover Inst. (2019).

³ Menges, *supra* note 2; Gershaneck, *supra* note 2 ("The PRC is engaged in war against the United States. It is not mere competition or malign influence, but war by PRC definition."); Newsham, *supra* note 2, at 60 (The CCP "seeks global domination" and "will fight its main enemy, the United States, to achieve it.").

⁴ Qiao Liang & Wang Xiangsu, *Unrestricted Warfare: China's Master Plan to Destroy America* (PLA Lit. & Arts Pub. House 1999) (China) (military colonels describing twenty-four varieties of warfare).

⁵ "While the CCP's United Front Work Department has functional responsibility for these [warfare] operations and activities, PRC united front work is a task of all CCP agencies and members." Gershaneck, *supra* note 2, at 22.

Republic of China's (PRC)⁶ “magic weapons,”⁷ as described by General Secretary Xi Jinping,⁸ to advance the Party's aim of global domination.⁹ United front work (UFW), which may be executed by the United Front Work Department (UFW) or elsewhere in the Party, is a “unique blend of engagement, influence activities, and intelligence operations” that the CCP uses to “influence other countries' policy toward the PRC and to gain access to advanced foreign technology.”¹⁰ UFW “generally involves covert activity and is a form of interference that aids the CCP's rise.”¹¹ United front “networks” are used “to carry out relationship-focused influence campaigns through a multitude of proxies.”¹²

Despite years of false promises to the West, the CCP openly seeks to achieve its destructive ambition. In 1999, two People's Liberation Army (PLA) Air Force colonels authored *Unrestricted Warfare*, which has been described as a strategic military vision for the PRC to defeat America through political warfare.¹³ Retired Brig. Gen. Robert Spalding, who has served in senior positions in strategy and diplomacy with the U.S. Departments of Defense and State for decades, characterizes the book as “the main blueprint for China's efforts to unseat America as the world's economy, political, and ideological leader,” which “shows exactly how a totalitarian nation set out to dominate the West through a comprehensive, long-term strategy that includes everything from corporate sabotage to cyberwarfare to dishonest diplomacy; from violations of international trade law and intellectual property law to calculated abuses of the global financial system.”¹⁴ Kerry Gershaneck, former counterintelligence officer who wrote a seminal book on combatting PRC Political Warfare, has explained that *Unrestricted Warfare* details CCP use of “any methods” where “the boundaries between war and non-war and between military and non-military affairs [have] systemically broken down.”¹⁵ To successfully combat these highly organized and pervasive warfares spawned by China, federal agencies must first recognize and understand them.

The CCP “know[s] the strength of the American people, of the American idea, and that's why China has launched so many warfares to try to weaken us, divide us, and get us to hate

⁶ It is essential to understand that Xi Jinping has removed any “vener of separation between the [CCP] and the Chinese state.” Gershaneck, *supra* note 2, at 43 (quoting Ann-Marie Brady, *Exploit Every Rift: United Front Work Goes Global*, in David Gitter et al., *Party Watch Annual Report*, Ctr. for Adv. China Res. (2018)).

⁷ Ann-Marie Brady, *Magic Weapons: China's political influence activities under Xi Jinping*, Wilson Ctr. (Sept. 18, 2017); *see also* Sel. Comm. on the Chinese Communist Party, *Memorandum: United Front 101*, at 7 (“United Front 101 Memo”).

⁸ Alex Joske, *The party speaks for you: Foreign interference and the Chinese Communist Party's united front system*, Austl. Strategic Pol'y Inst. (Jun. 09, 2020) (quoting Xi Jinping at 2015 Central United Front Work Meeting).

⁹ *See, e.g.*, Newsham, *supra* note 2, at 43 (“The People's Republic of China may settle for dominance rather than occupation, but it does indeed aim to rule us all.”).

¹⁰ United Front 101 Memo, *supra* note 7, at 1.

¹¹ Joske, *The party speaks for you*, *supra* note 8, at 19.

¹² Alex Joske, *Spies and Lies: How China's Greatest Covert Operations Fooled the World*, at 63 (2022).

¹³ Gershaneck, *supra* note 2.

¹⁴ Spalding, *War Without Rules*, *supra* note 2, at xii; *see also* Robert Spalding, *Stealth War*, at 12-13 (2019) (*Unrestricted Warfare* “should be required reading for all branches of the US government and for business leaders, because it outlines, in no uncertain terms, the strategy behind China's policies,” including stating that the “new principles of war” are “no longer ‘using armed force to compel the enemy to submit to one's will,’ but rather are ‘using all means, including armed force or non-armed force, military and non-military, and lethal and non-lethal means to compel the enemy to accept one's interests.’”).

¹⁵ Gershaneck, *supra* note 2, at 16 (quoting Qiao Liang & Wang Xiangsu, *supra* note 4, at 6-7).

ourselves and each other.”¹⁶ Retired Col. Grant Newsham, former U.S. Marine Liaison Officer to the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force and U.S. Foreign Service Officer, has advised that “the way out of this is to rediscover why we are an exceptional country, get to know each other better, and fight side by side.”¹⁷

As all Americans are targets of the PRC’s warfare,¹⁸ federal agencies have responsibilities to (1) conduct outreach to citizens about the dangers they may encounter, and (2) provide appropriate incentives for Americans to proactively protect themselves—their communities, schools, houses of worship, businesses, finances, food, and more—from the threat. Federal agencies must prepare Americans to “take action.”¹⁹ To stop the CCP’s “destructive actions,” retired Brig. Gen. Spalding advises that it will “take macrolevel strategic changes by our government, but also microlevel actions by individuals, businesses and other civic institutions.”²⁰ The Committee is surveying each agency’s role to secure Americans and their communities.

Congress has recognized the threat posed by the PRC for some time. Notably, in 1999, the U.S. House Select Committee on U.S. National Security and Military/Commercial Concerns with the People’s Republic of China concluded that in the preceding decade, the PRC used a “variety of techniques including espionage, controlled commercial entities, and a network of individuals that engage in contact with scientists, business people and academics” as part of its warfare operations.²¹

With varying degrees of effort and success, federal agencies have sought to address the CCP’s attack on what Col. Newsham has aptly described as “[t]he core of America.”²² However, the threat is grave and work must be done across agencies to protect America.²³ Peter Mattis, former staff director of the Congressional-Executive Commission of China and counterintelligence analyst at the CIA counsels that

¹⁶ Newsham, *supra* note 2, at 341.

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ “The Three Warfares, the traditional foundation of PRC political warfare, include public opinion/media warfare, psychological warfare, and legal warfare.” Gershaneck, *supra* note 2. It “requires efforts to unify military and civilian thinking, divide the enemy into factions, weaken the enemy’s combat power, and organize legal offensives.” Elsa Kania, *China Brief: The PLA’s Latest Strategic Thinking on the Three Warfares*, Jamestown Found. (Aug. 22, 2016).

¹⁹ Spalding, *War Without Rules*, *supra* note 2, at 214.

²⁰ *Id.*; see also Peter Mattis & Matt Schrader, *America Can’t Beat Beijing’s Tech Theft With Racial Profiling*, War on the Rocks (July 23, 2019) (“The U.S. government’s difficulties in telling a convincing story about the Chinese Communist Party point to a[n] important step: addressing a serious lack of ‘China literacy,’ both within the enforcement portions of the federal bureaucracy, and in U.S. society as a whole.”).

²¹ Cox Report, *supra* note 2, at xxxiii; see generally Menges, *supra* note 2.

²² Newsham, *supra* note 2, at 33.

²³ See Newsham, *supra* note 2, at 309 (“We need to know, value, protect and build the strengths of the United States of America, and shed the light of truth on the corruption, in every sense of the word,” of the CCP. “That could mean in discussions with family, community, at school or wherever that understanding needs bolstering.” Education courses on PRC political warfare would benefit “[a]ny decision-makers who work with China.”); see Gershaneck, *supra* note 2, at 153 (outlining such courses to “build[] internal defenses”).

Only by being clear in public about the actions and intentions of the Chinese party-state, and being publicly accountable for the actions the U.S. government takes in response, will the United States be able to address Beijing's challenges while upholding our democratic commitment to fair, transparent justice for all Americans.²⁴

To this end, the Committee is conducting this investigation and implores each federal agency to uphold its duty to the American communities for whom they are responsible.

CCP Energy Warfare

The number one priority for the U.S. Department of Energy should be American energy security. This means the agency should be focused on ensuring that the U.S. can produce large amounts of reliable energy that lifts family incomes in our country. Secure, affordable energy is not only important for families trying to put food on the table, but also for American competitiveness abroad. If U.S. energy is secure, America can provide goods and energy to the rest of the world, which will support economic growth, create stability, and enhance global security.

The PRC understands this and is invested in undermining the energy security of the U.S. as we transition to cleaner energy. This practice is intentional as the CCP understands that it can exploit the Western obsession with the transition to cleaner energy to its own gain.²⁵ The PRC executes these goals through a multi-front campaign that includes influencing special interest groups in the U.S.,²⁶ concerted espionage to steal American intellectual property, and leveraging federal subsidies and partnerships with U.S. entities.²⁷ Col. Newsham has explained that putting an end to energy independence is a “good thing from China’s perspective” because it “increase[s] unemployment and inflation, as well as America’s dependence on solar manufacturing and China’s supply of key minerals needed for manufacturing green technologies.”²⁸ The PRC has achieved significant successes particularly in the areas of solar panels, wind turbines, and electric vehicle (EV) supply chains to this end. This did not happen overnight—it is the result of years-long strategic planning by the PRC. In 2010, the *New York Times* quoted a PRC official speaking at the China Wind Power conference that encapsulates the PRC’s ambitions in renewable energy: “You cannot be called a winner if you are the leader for three or five years, [y]ou can only stand on top if you are the leader for 100 or 200 years.”²⁹ The PRC’s dominance in several energy industries has led to disruptions in U.S. energy production,³⁰ and the PRC has exploited federal resources to increase its competitiveness against the U.S.

²⁴ Mattis and Schrader, *supra* note 20.

²⁵ *Winning the New Cold War: A Plan for Countering China—Part II. The Plan to Counter China*, The Heritage Foundation (Mar. 28, 2023).

²⁶ Gershaneck, *supra* note 2, at 22-23.

²⁷ Ma Li, *U.S.-China Energy Cooperation Program*, AmCham China (May 2, 2024).

²⁸ Newsham, *supra* note 2, at 173.

²⁹ Keith Bradsher, *To Conquer Wind Power, China Writes the Rules*, N.Y. Times (Dec. 14, 2010).

³⁰ David Hart, *The Impact of China’s Production Surge on Innovation in the Global Solar Photovoltaics Industry*, Information Technology & Innovation Foundation (Oct. 5, 2020).

The U.S. Risks Bolstering CCP Energy Warfare

Congress has passed sweeping legislation to increase domestic production of renewable energy, lithium batteries, and EVs. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) authorized billions of dollars to the Department of Energy to influence the transition to renewable energy.³¹ While the intent is to strengthen domestic production of renewable energy, some Chinese companies are taking advantage of the legislation.

It is notable that within months of the IRA being signed into law, Chinese lithium battery manufacturers announced ventures in the U.S.³² Ford Motor Company and CATL have announced a partnership for battery technology.³³ Tesla has also expressed interest in a partnership with CATL.³⁴ A subsidiary of another EV battery firm based in the PRC, Gotion, has announced multiple plants in the U.S.³⁵

Further, on October 19, 2022, DOE announced the availability of \$2.8 billion under the IIJA for manufacturing of batteries for electric vehicles and the electric grid,³⁶ and DOE awarded Microvast, a lithium battery company, \$200 million of taxpayer dollars despite the company's primary operations taking place in China.³⁷ Microvast is a majority U.S.-owned company that is headquartered in Stafford, Texas, but maintains close ties to the CCP.³⁸ The majority of Microvast's assets and revenue are in China.³⁹ These examples raise questions about the implementation of legislation that has been billed to Americans as weening the U.S. off Chinese supply chains. PRC companies have also benefited indirectly from U.S. renewable energy programs due to the PRC's control of supply chains.

For example, the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) provided hundreds of millions in tax incentives to solar producers in the U.S. The Recovery Act also provided loan guarantees for utility-scale solar projects.⁴⁰ However, despite helping establish large-scale solar installations in the U.S., the Recovery Act illustrates the PRC's ability to capitalize on the climate debate. The law awarded \$10 million to two PRC firms, Suntech and

³¹ DOE Fact Sheet: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal Will Deliver for American Workers, Families and Usher in the Clean Energy Future. Energy.gov. (Nov. 9, 2021); Adi Kumar, *The Inflation Reduction Act: Here's what's in it*, McKinsey (Oct. 24, 2022).

³² Joey Capaletti, *Michigan committee gives \$175 million for EV battery plant*, AP News (Apr. 20, 2023).

³³ Thomas Catenacci, *Joe Manchin blasts Biden admin for ceding control to CCP on green energy: 'Pathetic'*, Fox News (Mar. 31, 2023).

³⁴ *Id.*

³⁵ Thomas Catenacci, *Biden admin appears to give pass to Chinese-backed green energy plant*, Fox News (Apr. 21, 2023).

³⁶ Dep't of Energy, *Biden-Harris Administration Awards \$2.8 Billion to Supercharge U.S. Manufacturing of Batteries for Electric Vehicles and Electric Grid* (Oct. 19, 2022).

³⁷ Alana Goodman, *DOE Touts \$200M Grant to Lithium Battery Company as Boon to American-Made Clean Energy. The Company Operates Primarily From China*, Free Beacon (Dec. 6, 2022).

³⁸ *Id.*

³⁹ *Microvast Stock is a Pure Play on EV Battery Technology*, Nanalyze (Apr. 10, 2022).

⁴⁰ Hart, *supra* note 30.

Yingli.⁴¹ The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF) produced a report in 2020 about the surge in the PRC's solar production finding that the Recovery Act ultimately benefited Chinese suppliers more than others.⁴² According to ITIF, the PRC's solar firms are well positioned to supply the U.S. domestic consumption of solar energy supplies because China's "subsidies continue to shape international competition," and that even with tax breaks, U.S. companies have proved "no match for their competition in China."⁴³

The PRC now commands the supply of core components for solar panels, specifically polysilicon, solar wafers, and solar cells.⁴⁴ Wood Mackenzie, a United Kingdom-based research firm, estimates that the PRC has 80 percent of the world's solar manufacturing capacity.⁴⁵

Similarly, the PRC is the world's major wind energy producer. According to the Global Wind Energy Council, Chinese wind power manufacturers account for nearly 60 percent of installed capacity.⁴⁶ The PRC achieved this rapid scale-up through a combination of forced technology transfers, local content requirements, generous subsidies, and violating international trade agreements.⁴⁷

These dynamics present troubling headwinds with China as the U.S. strives to increase its own production of these sources of energy that are central to American society, security, and the economy. However, the PRC's systemic exploitation of federal mandates, regulations, and legislation is only the most overt methods of undermining U.S. energy security. The PRC also methodically uses covert tactics to steal technology, intellectual property, and trade secrets.

Chinese Hacking, Talent Recruitment Programs, and The Theft of Research and Trade Secrets

By using a method that former Assistant Attorney General for National Security, John Demers, has described as "rob, replicate, and replace," China targets the tradecraft of U.S. companies.⁴⁸ For example, in 2014, a U.S. grand jury indicted five PLA agents for hacking SolarWorld—America's biggest solar tech company at the time.⁴⁹ PLA hackers had "stole[n] thousands of files including information about SolarWorld's cash flow, manufacturing metrics,

⁴¹ *Id.*

⁴² *Id.*

⁴³ *Id.*

⁴⁴ Wood Mackenzie, *China to Hold over 80% of Global Solar Manufacturing Capacity from 2023-26* (November 7, 2023).

⁴⁵ *Id.*

⁴⁶ Otis de Marie, *China's Global Dominance in Wind Power Market Continues to Soar*, Microgrid (Aug. 27, 2023).

⁴⁷ Sewell Chan, *U.S. Says China Fund Breaks Rules*, The New York Times (December 22, 2010); Keith Bradsher, *To Conquer Wind Power, China Writes the Rules*, N.Y. Times (December 14, 2010).

⁴⁸ *China's Non-Traditional Espionage Against the United States: The Threat and Potential Policy Responses before the S. Comm. on Jud.*, 115th Cong. (2018) (statement of John Demers, Assist. Attorney General, National Security Division, U.S. Dpt. of Justice), <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/12-12-18%20Demers%20Testimony.pdf>.

⁴⁹ Ian Williams, *China is trying to strangle the world's solar power energy*, The Spectator (Feb. 19, 2023); U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Pennsylvania, Press Release, *U.S. Charges Five Chinese Military Hackers For Cyber Espionage Against U.S. Corporations And A Labor Organization For Commercial Advantage* (May 19, 2014).

production line information, costs, and privileged attorney-client communications.”⁵⁰ The stolen information went to heavily subsidized Chinese firms, and, in turn, products relying on SolarWorld’s innovations soon flooded the global market.⁵¹ In 2018, the Department of Justice (DOJ) charged Sinovel Wind Group, another PRC-based wind turbine exporter, for theft of trade secrets from an American company.⁵² China’s covert means of stealing technology from the U.S. are persistent and target both private and public entities.

China has sought for years, at times with success, to infiltrate U.S. National Laboratories.⁵³ The national labs are the sites of some of the most cutting-edge research in the U.S. The research being done at these labs on super computing, artificial intelligence, and nuclear energy, to name a few, is of great interest to the PRC. In 2022, it was discovered that China has recruited more than 150 scientists from Los Alamos National Laboratory to research for the CCP.⁵⁴ The PRC’s efforts at Los Alamos date back to 1987, and many of the researchers had very high levels of security clearance.⁵⁵ The report issued by Strider Technologies in 2022, found that the PRC is “employing a Talent Superpower Strategy” to encourage scientists to study abroad and then return to China.⁵⁶ Talent recruitment programs are a common method for U.S. adversaries to co-opt American research. Some of the scientists participated in the PRC’s marquee talent recruitment program – the Thousand Talents Program – and returned to carry on CCP defense projects such as hypersonic missiles.⁵⁷ The U.S. National Laboratories do not operate as silos. Scientists who perform research at Los Alamos might also do so at Oak Ridge for instance. This increases the vulnerability of the national lab system. As technologies such as artificial intelligence become increasingly important and the race for the fastest super computers unfolds, it is clear that China will continue to pose a serious security risk to our national labs. In 2023, Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Christopher Wray warned that China is not only a considerable threat to U.S. research institutions, but civilian infrastructure as well.⁵⁸

The U.S. faces threats to its energy security from large-scale Chinese cyber-attacks. American utilities and infrastructure will become increasingly vulnerable as the U.S. transitions to more renewable energy. U.S. intelligence has assessed that some strategic rivals, “[a]lmost certainly China, are capable of a large-scale cyber attack on the electric grid.”⁵⁹

⁵⁰ U.S. Attorney’s Office, *supra* note 49.

⁵¹ Williams, *supra* note 49.

⁵² Dep’t of Justice, Press Release, *Court Imposes Maximum Fine on Sinovel Wind Group for Theft of Trade Secrets* (July 6, 2018).

⁵³ *Connect the Dots on State-Sponsored Cyber Incidents - Targeting of U.S. National Laboratories*, Council on Foreign Relations (Dec, 2007).

⁵⁴ *The Los Alamos Club: How the People’s Republic of China Recruited Leading Scientists from Los Alamos National Laboratory to Advance Its Military Programs*, Strider Technologies, Accessed April 24, 2024.

⁵⁵ *Id.*

⁵⁶ *Id.*

⁵⁷ *Id.*

⁵⁸ News Release, *Chinese Government Poses ‘Broad and Unrelenting’ Threat to U.S. Critical Infrastructure, FBI Director Says*, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (Apr. 18, 2024).

⁵⁹ Office of the Director of National Intelligence, *Annual Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community* (Feb. 6, 2023).

CCP Cyber Warfare Against the U.S. Power Grid

DOE must be prepared to protect the nation's power grid from the threat of China hacking critical American infrastructure. Director Wray warned Congress that, "China's hackers are positioning on American infrastructure in preparation to wreak havoc and cause real world harm to American citizens and communities if and when China decides the time is right to strike."⁶⁰

The ongoing CCP-backed hacking campaign, known as Volt Typhoon, has reportedly burrowed into infrastructure of telecommunications, energy, water, and pipeline operators.⁶¹ The Director of Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Jen Easterly, testified alongside Director Wray that the agency has previously found Chinese-linked intrusions in energy infrastructure.⁶² Cybersecurity experts have pointed to the 2021 ransomware attack on the Colonial Pipeline as an example of the disruption the U.S. faces with such threats. These types of threats are especially concerning because they appear to be evolving at a rate that is challenging for federal agencies to protect against. CCP cyber-attacks could cause devastating disruptions in the electric grid that would threaten Americans' safety, the economy, and national security. The point of these cyber-attacks is to sow panic among citizens⁶³ and, as Director Wray has stated, the CCP wants to prevent the U.S. from responding to a "crisis between China and Taiwan."⁶⁴

Conclusion

CCP energy warfare threatens the American economy and our nation's security on many fronts. Renewable energy requirements are benefiting the CCP. The U.S. will be dependent on China for the foreseeable future for the transition to cleaner energy. A dependence on the PRC creates serious national security risks. Additionally, the CCP is waging a sophisticated warfare campaign through covert means such as talent recruitment programs and hacking. Reducing reliance on China by promoting secure, affordable, domestic energy sources is vital to a prosperous economy and securing our national defense. The Department of Energy should be working to meet these challenges head on. The federal government risks losing American energy security without the acknowledgment and proper devotion to addressing the threats posed by China.

To assist the Committee in investigating this matter, we request a briefing from the Department of Energy with Committee staff. Please contact Committee staff as soon as possible, but no later than May 13, 2024. This briefing should address the following:

⁶⁰ David Jones, *China-linked hackers primed to attack US critical infrastructure, FBI director says*, Cybersecurity Dive (Feb. 1, 2024).

⁶¹ *Id.*

⁶² *Id.*

⁶³ Reuters, *FBI Chief Says Chinese Hackers Have Infiltrated Critical US Infrastructure*, The Guardian (Apr. 19, 2024).

⁶⁴ Jones, *supra* note 59.

1. How DOE strives to inspire and equip Americans to strengthen their communities, innovate, and create the technologies and phenomena that will secure a strong and prosperous future for our nation;
2. How DOE's leadership ensures all its employees are aware of CCP warfare and influence operations against the U.S. and are equipped to address them wherever they arise;
3. How DOE understands and executes its role in protecting American energy security from China;
4. How DOE reconciles China's domination of renewable energy supply chains with U.S. short- and long-term goals to strengthen its own supply chains and to become a world-leader;
5. DOE's current strategy to combat the threat of CCP warfare, cyber warfare, infiltration, and influence in all areas of American energy, including but not limited to fossil fuels, electricity, solar, wind, water, geothermal, biomass, and nuclear energy;
6. DOE training of its employees to identify and address CCP energy warfare and influence threatening American energy;
7. DOE efforts to ensure that its mission, work, policies, and personnel are not influenced by the CCP;
8. DOE's approach to CCP threats to the United States power grid, and any plans to mitigate and address these threats; and
9. The work, purpose, and security of DOE's office in Beijing.

Please contact the Committee on Oversight and Accountability staff at (202) 225-5074 to schedule the staff briefing. The Committee on Oversight and Accountability is the principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important investigation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Comer". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

James Comer

Chairman

Committee on Oversight and Accountability

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
May 6, 2024
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cc: The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Accountability