



Energy and Commerce Committee End of Session Review

**113th Congress
2013 - 2014**



“Jobs are, and will continue to be, job one. We must strive for a smaller, modernized government geared for the innovation era, where the obsolete programs of yesterday are abandoned for fresh approaches that unleash growth and advancement in all sectors – communications, health, manufacturing, and energy. We must also stand up for families, communities, and successful civic initiatives that are working at the state and local level.”

– Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Fred Upton, November 28, 2012, remarking on the committee’s leadership team and agenda for the 113th Congress

Introduction

The U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce is the oldest standing legislative committee in the House, and its jurisdiction spans issues that affect virtually all aspects of American life. Under the leadership of Chairman Fred Upton, the committee continues to deliver bipartisan results – meaningful oversight and legislative accomplishments designed to make government more accountable, predictable, and beneficial to the American people. This report provides an overview of the committee’s work in the 113th Congress (2013-2014). It is the latest in a series of such reports delivered under Chairman Upton’s leadership to make the work of the committee more accessible and useful to the public. It also demonstrates the committee’s progress toward the mission set forth by Chairman Upton two years ago: (1) policies that support jobs and economic growth, (2) a smaller, modernized government for the innovation era, and (3) protection of families, communities, and civic initiatives.

This report is divided into four sections: (1) a listing of key legislation and oversight topics; (2) a discussion of key hearings and activities convened by each of the committee’s six subcommittees; (3) a review of *The Policy Paper Series*, which the committee created to foster ideas and policy development; and (4) a preview of some upcoming key initiatives for the committee in the 114th Congress.

Legislation and Oversight Highlights

The Energy and Commerce Committee amassed an impressive record of bipartisan accomplishments in the 113th Congress to create jobs and spur economic growth, modernize government for the innovation era, and protect families, communities, and civic initiatives. **Through December 31, 2014, 91 committee bills cleared the House of Representatives, with 51 bills becoming law, and 40 bills awaiting Senate action.**

The issues on which the Energy and Commerce Committee has legislated are widespread. In the public health space alone, the panel has seen bipartisan solutions enacted related to [pandemic preparedness](#), [organ transplants](#), [emergency epinephrine](#) in schools, programs to support [newborn screening](#) and to prevent and treat [premature birth](#) and [sudden infant death](#), [research](#) rare [pediatric diseases](#), and support [children’s hospital](#) graduate medical education. It has passed bills into law to improve the safety of [compounded drugs](#) and the [pharmaceutical supply chain](#), address gaps in the [mental health](#) system, reauthorize [autism](#) research and support, extend [animal drug](#) and generic drug user fee programs and improve

flexibility for [veterinary medicine](#), support [trauma care](#) and [emergency medical services](#) for children, and extend research into [muscular dystrophy](#) and [traumatic brain injury](#). It has also taken steps to allow improved [sunscreen](#) ingredients, ensure Medicare patients and those in rural communities have [access to care](#), support [individuals with disabilities](#), promote [early detection](#) of breast cancer in young women, protect against dangerous [steroid](#) products, and add [Ebola](#) to FDA's priority review voucher program.

Related to energy, the committee's legislative accomplishments include hydropower [license extensions](#) and [regulatory efficiency](#), [pipeline](#) safety, [home heating](#) and [propane availability](#), and policies addressing energy needs of [U.S. territories](#) and energy partnerships between the [U.S. and Israel](#).

The committee also delivered consumer protection legislation on issues as diverse as [fire safety](#) and [poison control centers](#), as well as [anti-doping authority](#) and Medicare [physician payment](#); it has eased regulatory burdens on [vehicle dealerships](#), [electronics manufacturers](#), and [electronic power supply](#) parts; it extended the [satellite law](#) to ensure continued programming availability for satellite customers; it reauthorized a [travel promotion](#) initiative that helps bring billions of dollars in tourism to the U.S.; and it extended the [chemical plant security](#) program.

For a more comprehensive list of legislation advanced by the Energy and Commerce Committee in the 113th Congress, visit the committee's #RecordOfSuccess webpage: <http://energycommerce.house.gov/recordofsuccess>.

A successful committee record is built not just on legislative production, but on oversight work as well. A few of the notable investigations in the 113th Congress include the [extensive review](#) of the [GM ignition switch recall](#) and important findings about the effectiveness of the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration](#); continued oversight of the [Affordable Care Act](#), including [enrollment information](#) the administration was unwilling to provide; the first-of-its-kind assessment of federal programs addressing [severe mental illness](#); scrutiny of [CDC and other labs](#) following a series of safety lapses; and real-time oversight of the [U.S. and global public health response](#) to the [Ebola outbreak](#) in West Africa, the U.S. cases, and overall emergency preparedness.

Key Hearings and Activity

Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade

Led by Chairman Lee Terry and Vice Chairman Leonard Lance, the Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade (CMT) Subcommittee turned its attention in the 113th Congress to issues squarely affecting American competitiveness, consumer protection, and job creation. The subcommittee convened hearings on issues that ranged from the economic benefits of tourism to sports and animal safety to protecting seniors from scams and fraudsters, and from future-oriented sectors like nanotechnology to fundamental questions about the role and mission of the Federal Trade Commission 100 years after the agency's founding. It also continued the work begun in the 112th Congress regarding consumer

protection in the online era with an emphasis on how to prevent and respond to data breaches.

The CMT subcommittee brings a unique job-focused perspective to issues that may also be considered by other Energy and Commerce subcommittees, and the panel worked collaboratively to shine a spotlight on these opportunities. For example, CMT partnered with the Energy and Power Subcommittee for a hearing on how our nation's newfound energy abundance is creating a manufacturing advantage for American companies and workers. Similarly, the committee strives to translate the findings of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee into actionable policy solutions. After O&I identified how abusive patent assertion entities can take advantage of the legal system in ways that cost small businesses time and money, the subcommittee developed legislation to curb these "patent trolls" by establishing new parameters around patent demand letters. And the CMT subcommittee is continuing its efforts to improve auto safety after the GM ignition switch and Takata airbag recalls.

Regarding trade and foreign commerce, the panel looked at progress and opportunities within the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), the agreement currently being negotiated between the U.S. and the European Union. With its role overseeing and addressing non-tariff trade barriers, CMT is especially well positioned to examine the implications of this agreement for U.S. consumers and job creators. The subcommittee also looked at some of the specific challenges American companies are grappling with around the world, such as protectionist policies imposed in India and foreign restrictions on cross-border data flows, a key issue within TTIP and other international agreements that affect how American companies can do business around the world. And the subcommittee reviewed opportunities for foreign direct investment through the hearing process, which ultimately led to legislation.

The panel's most in-depth hearing work over the past two years focused on its manufacturing jurisdiction, with a series of hearings under the banner "Our Nation of Builders." The series focused on the obstacles to manufacturing in America in the 21st century as well as the opportunities that are helping fuel a manufacturing resurgence and what more can be done to achieve our full potential to build the products of the future. Hearings within this series looked at the state of American manufacturing broadly and then explored a range of sector-specific concerns from auto manufacturing to steel to homebuilding. And like all of the E&C subcommittees, CMT also used non-traditional venues to share its work with the American people. The subcommittee launched its manufacturing series with a bipartisan showcase that featured product made in members' congressional districts around the country, highlighting the diversity and ingenuity of products that are proudly made in the U.S.A.

Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

Under Chairman Greg Walden and Vice Chairman Bob Latta, the Communications and Technology Subcommittee (C&T) focused its attention in the 113th Congress on a few key areas: extending and updating services for consumers, modernizing communications laws

to better match the technology of today and the future, and keeping a watchful eye on the Federal Communications Commission and other federal agencies and regulatory authorities responsible for administering the nation's various communications networks. The panel also kept up the bipartisan pressure to protect the multi-stakeholder approach to Internet governance that has fostered freedom and innovation around the world.

The subcommittee partnered with the Health Subcommittee and the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee for a powerful three-part examination of how technology can improve health care in the 21st century, and how existing regulatory frameworks can help or hinder these opportunities. This hearing series convened early in the 113th Congress and became a foundation for future work of the panels, including a joint Health-Communications and Technology hearing on how modern technology can aid in the discovery, development, and delivery of faster and better treatments and cures. This work is just one example of the important linkages between subcommittees.

Oversight and analysis of the work of the FCC continued to be a priority for the panel, and the subcommittee regularly called the commissioners to testify and provide Congress with information about how the agency manages its regulatory responsibilities and allocates taxpayer and ratepayer resources. The subcommittee produced major legislation in the 112th Congress to authorize incentive auctions to free up and better allocate spectrum and establish a nationwide, interoperable, broadband public safety network. The subcommittee conducted extensive oversight of both of these recently enacted initiatives to ensure they would be implemented on time and on track as Congress intended – and to hold officials to account when agencies fall short. The panel also continued its efforts to erase outmoded FCC reporting requirements and improve agency processes to be more transparent and predictable to the public and the entities it regulates.

Finally, the C&T subcommittee looked to the future with its work to extend and to update communications laws – this included reauthorization of satellite television legislation and an extensive series of hearings as part of the #CommActUpdate initiative, which is a multi-year effort to assess the decades-old laws governing communications in America. The subcommittee explored issues as wide-ranging as media ownership, the evolution of wired networks and the future of wireless communication, changes in the video marketplace, and opportunities for innovation in spectrum. Passage and enactment of the Satellite Television Extension and Localism Act Reauthorization in 2014 marked the first time in 20 years that Congress was able to approve satellite legislation on its own, separate from some other must-pass vehicle. And this was not just a simple extension of current satellite retransmission authority – STELAR included pro-consumer reforms and regulatory modernization to the broader video marketplace, a first step in the work to come through the #CommActUpdate.

Subcommittee on Energy and Power

The Subcommittee on Energy and Power, led by Chairman Ed Whitfield and Vice Chairman Steve Scalise, used hearings effectively throughout the 113th Congress to examine the dramatic transformation in the American energy landscape and to develop visionary new

policies to embrace our abundant energy resources and position America for success on the global stage. Even as the subcommittee was exploring and advocating for a better, more modern energy policy, it kept close watch on the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Energy, and other regulatory bodies to expose the consequences of their regulatory policies and propose better solutions.

This agency oversight was conducted through careful analysis and multiple hearings on the EPA's regulation of both new and existing power plants, a policy that threatens to dramatically reshape how states provide power to their citizens and businesses, driving up costs while jeopardizing the reliability of the national electrical power grid. The subcommittee also maintained its regular reviews of agency budgets, including EPA, DOE, and NRC, and looked at policies developed decades ago – such as export restrictions – to understand whether they make sense today. It also undertook an extensive bipartisan review of the Renewable Fuel Standard and its ramifications on a host of policy areas from food costs to environmental consequences to vehicle compatibility. And at a time when the Obama administration is spending billions of dollars annually with more than a dozen agencies involved in various aspects of climate change policy, the subcommittee continued working to understand the scope and effectiveness of the administration's far-reaching climate change policies.

The subcommittee focused substantial hearing time and attention on a series of in-depth explorations of the state of American energy. This included reviews of energy access in the 21st century and American energy security and innovation; discussions of fuel supply and infrastructure, electricity generation and distribution, grid reliability, and fuel diversity; and a look at how state-level innovation can drive job creation. It explored the vast potential of newly reachable North American energy resources and opportunities for stronger partnerships and new job creation. And it partnered with the CMT subcommittee to look at how this energy abundance gives American manufacturing an advantage on the global stage.

Finally, it's worth noting the substantial time the subcommittee spent holding hearings on bipartisan solutions that would eventually take the form of legislation. While the committee's legislative record is summarized later in this report, the E&P subcommittee was especially focused over the last two years on developing and advancing policy solutions that can help realign our laws with the new energy reality. This included hearings on legislation to provide greater certainty in regulation and permitting; legislation to strengthen North American energy partnerships; legislation to expand and improve energy infrastructure; legislation to support a larger, more diverse energy workforce; and legislation to promote private-sector solutions to improve energy efficiency and innovation. And as with other subcommittees, E&P used creative venues such as an international roundtable to facilitate a public discussion of these pressing national issues.

Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy

Led by Chairman John Shimkus and Vice Chairman Phil Gingrey, the Environment and the Economy Subcommittee focused its attention – as its name indicates – on the intersection

between sound environmental regulation and pro-economy policies. The subcommittee undertook an in-depth examination of various regulatory approaches to determine a set of principles to guide reform, and it used those guideposts to develop policy solutions for a range of environmental challenges, from management and recycling of coal ash to state-federal partnerships within the Superfund and solid waste disposal programs, and from responding to threats to safe drinking water to a full reexamination of the law that regulates chemicals.

The subcommittee convened a series of hearings on the respective roles of states and the federal government in environmental regulation, asking important questions about which level of government is best equipped to manage and enforce different statutes. This included both broad-based hearings assessing the effectiveness of current laws and exploring constitutional considerations, as well as program-specific hearings that reviewed various policy proposals to determine the best approach for the future.

The panel continued its longstanding focus on nuclear waste disposal, convening a series of hearings and using a range of other tools to press the Department of Energy and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to fulfill obligations under the law and make progress toward the safe, permanent disposal site at Yucca Mountain. This included joint hearings with the Energy and Power Subcommittee, recognizing that certainty and progress toward nuclear waste disposal is an essential component in broader efforts to maintain nuclear power as part of America's all-of-the-above energy strategy.

Finally, the subcommittee made substantial progress through the hearing process to set the stage for modernization of various environmental statutes. Members held extensive hearings on chemical regulation, ultimately producing and reviewing the Chemicals in Commerce Act to update and improve an aging law. The subcommittee continued working to provide a sensible solution for coal ash disposal and management, recognizing that tools available to EPA under current law are insufficient and instead proposing a new framework for state implementation of a set of federal standards. The panel also called in the Department of Homeland Security to answer questions about chronic mismanagement and failure to implement the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards program and worked with other committees to press for improvements in the program's extension.

Subcommittee on Health

Under Chairman Joe Pitts and Vice Chairman Michael C. Burgess, M.D., the Health Subcommittee kept up its prolific legislative production against the backdrop of an unmatched hearing record that explored a wide range of important health issues. Notable among the subcommittee's accomplishments in the 113th Congress was its hearing and roundtable series in support of the 21st Century Cures initiative. Launched in April 2014, the bipartisan 21st Century Cures initiative aims to accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery cycle of treatments and cures by closing gaps between scientific promise and federal regulation and support. Hearings and roundtables explored a wide range of topics including clinical trials, improved incorporation of patient perspectives into the regulatory process, the role of incentives, drug innovation, lab-developed tests, and the role of

technological advancements including medical apps and communication-collaboration tools. The Health Subcommittee even partnered with the Communications and Technology Subcommittee to explore how communications policies intersect with opportunities for health reform.

With its jurisdiction over Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and the Affordable Care Act, the subcommittee grappled with key questions about program structure, long-term fiscal sustainability, and consequences for patients and doctors, particularly with respect to the mission of caring for our nation's most vulnerable populations. The subcommittee led an effort jointly with other committees in the House and Senate to develop a long-term replacement for the broken Medicare sustainable growth rate, just one component of the panel's efforts to modernize this essential program for seniors with hearings on issues such as Medicare Advantage, better managing care, modern benefit designs, site of service reforms, physician services, and the administration's proposed changes to the prescription drug benefit program. The subcommittee likewise used hearings to examine the future of Medicaid and CHIP with a focus on state-based flexibility and fiscal sustainability.

Given its extensive legislative record in previous congresses, the subcommittee also devoted substantial time to reviewing the work of the Department of Health and Human Services and other agencies to implement existing laws. The subcommittee convened hearings on the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act, the Tobacco Control Act, and the Food Safety Modernization Act. It called more than half a dozen hearings on various elements of the Affordable Care Act, including concerns about plan cancellations, premium increases, job losses, program integrity, the difference between access to coverage and access to care, and general status updates on implementation in the face of ongoing challenges.

The subcommittee kept up its strong record on the public health front as well, with hearings on a wide range of concerns such as preparedness and product development surrounding the Ebola outbreak, public health responses to human trafficking, prescription drug abuse, drug shortages, animal drugs, generic drug labeling, food labeling, mental health, and local health initiatives. The subcommittee's work on drug compounding and the prescription drug supply chain followed important work done by the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee to expose gaps in the system, which Health Subcommittee rectified with important, bipartisan solutions that were signed into law – two of many Health Subcommittee initiatives that were enacted over the last two years.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

The Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, led by Chairman Tim Murphy and Vice Chairman Michael C. Burgess, M.D., took its investigative work to new depths in the 113th Congress with several multi-hearing inquiries that delved into some of the country's most pressing challenges. A signature investigation over the last two years was Chairman Murphy's review of the federal agencies and programs involved in the treatment of individuals suffering from severe mental illness and the rights of family members seeking

to help their loved ones. This extensive review was launched in the wake of the tragic shooting in Newtown, Connecticut, a case that once again shined the national spotlight on the rare but devastating instances in which severe mental illness translates into violence. Hearings in this series included a review of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; a discussion of psychiatric bed shortages and consequences for patients and families; strategies for suicide prevention; and questions about the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and associated privacy rule. The subcommittee also convened a public roundtable to launch the discussion with mental health experts and affected families, as well as a briefing to review the findings of the panel's investigation.

One important function of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee is to identify areas of waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, as well as other failures by regulators or those they regulate, and deliver those findings in a way that legislative subcommittees can translate into policy solutions. The O&I subcommittee fulfilled that charge throughout the 113th Congress: its work on patent trolls exposed abuse that the CMT subcommittee is seeking to correct through legislation on patent demand letters, its work on the GM ignition switch recall and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is informing the CMT subcommittee's ongoing efforts to improve auto safety, including modernization of the regulator; and its exposure of deadly safety risks at the New England Compounding Center and failures by regulators to identify and correct the problems earlier resulted in legislation developed by the Health Subcommittee and enacted into law. Just a few weeks ago, individuals with the NECC were arrested and charged in the case.

The subcommittee sharpened its focus on the consequences of this administration's regulatory efforts, particularly related to energy, with reviews of how EPA rules are affecting coal communities and the overall function of the Department of Energy, including its work on clean coal programs, the status of its troubled loan guarantee programs, security breakdowns within the nuclear security enterprise, and the overall agency mission and performance in a changing energy landscape. The subcommittee also held the administration's feet to the fire on the troubled implementation of the Affordable Care Act with more than half a dozen hearings that assessed the security of HealthCare.gov, the consequences of unilateral administrative delays to the law, challenges facing businesses, rising premiums and lost coverage, and much more.

The panel contributed to the overall E&C public health mission with hearings and investigations into ongoing troubles with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention labs and the troubled BioWatch bioterrorism detection program; a pair of hearings at the height of the Ebola outbreak to understand the U.S. and global public health response; a review of influenza preparedness; the troubling increase in heroin and prescription drug abuse in communities across the country; and the cost and risks of counterfeit drugs. The O&I subcommittee also joined the Health and Communications and Technology subcommittees in the three-part review of health information technology, providing an important perspective on steps that should be taken to promote continued rapid health innovation into the future. And O&I hearings added to the committee's record on cybersecurity with a review of cyber-espionage and the theft of U.S. intellectual property.

The Policy Paper Series: Transforming Ideas Into Solutions

Although hearings have always been an important tool for the Energy and Commerce Committee, members have also sought other opportunities to foster discussion of key public policy issues. One opportunity for such dialogue is *The Policy Paper Series* and its sister publication *The Oversight Series*.

The Energy and Commerce Committee's jurisdiction spans telecommunications, consumer protection, food and drug safety, public health research, environmental quality, energy policy, and interstate and foreign commerce. It oversees multiple cabinet-level Departments and independent agencies, including the Departments of Energy, Health and Human Services, Commerce, and Transportation, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Trade Commission, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Federal Communications Commission. In all of these areas, the panel's members have sought to develop thoughtful, durable policies that support job creation and economic growth, modernize government for the innovation era, and protect individuals, families, and civic initiatives.

The committee's Republican majority established *The Policy Paper Series* to support its legislative work with policy development and analysis. Similarly, *The Oversight Series* offers in-depth discussion of the panel's investigative efforts. Over the last several years, the committee has released papers on a broad range of topics and with a variety of formats. These papers combine historical review, data, and assessment of current policies to help make the case for creative new solutions to major public policy challenges.

In December, the committee [re-issued](#) a handful of the policy papers issued by the Energy and Commerce Committee over the course of the 113th Congress, as well as a few new papers that expand the committee's record. These papers offer a foundation on which to build policy work in the coming years. Policy papers included in the compilation are:

- Building the Architecture of Abundance
- Prosperity at Home and Strengthened Allies Abroad: A Global Perspective on Natural Gas Exports
- A History Worth Repeating: The Alaska Pipeline and Its Lessons for Keystone XL
- State and Federal Partnership to Manage Environmental Protection
- Smart Regulation – The Role of Science in Managing Risk
- Our Nation of Builders: Manufacturing Policy for the Future
- The Medicaid Check Up: Reasons for Reform
- Making Medicaid Work
- Modernizing Medicare for the 21st Century
- Responding to Seniors' Needs and Improving Medicare Choices
- Affordable Health Insurance Shouldn't be an Oxymoron
- Committee's Investigation of Federal Programs Addressing Severe Mental Illness
- Good Process Makes Good Policy: Reforming the FCC
- Making the Most of America's Airwaves: Government Spectrum Policy

It is not a complete set of all papers authored by the committee; readers interested in the full collection are encouraged to visit <http://energycommerce.house.gov/issues/analysis> for more.

Republicans on the Energy and Commerce Committee are offering a clear policy vision for America. Our members develop and promote new ideas, offering a platform for responsible governing. These papers explore topics as wide-ranging as Medicare and Medicaid reform, health insurance and public health, energy infrastructure, American manufacturing, spectrum management, and much more.

Policy Preview: 114th Congress Agenda

A compelling hearing record, use of creative outreach to the American public, and extensive legislative production have become hallmarks of the Energy and Commerce Committee, and these tools will be brought to bear once again as the committee prepares its agenda for the 114th Congress (2015-2016).

The issues the committee will address in the coming two years are too numerous to catalog here, and will undoubtedly evolve in response to developments that have yet to emerge. However, some key priorities for the panel have already become clear:

- **21st Century Cures Initiative:** The Health Subcommittee has already build an impressive foundation of hearings, roundtables, and stakeholder input on which to build its 21st Century Cures initiative, and the committee plans to come out of the gate quickly in 2015 with a discussion draft of proposals related to the discovery, development, and delivery of treatments and cures.
- **Building the Architecture of Abundance:** The Energy and Power Subcommittee spent the last two years reassessing the old assumptions about energy scarcity that have long driven our nation's energy policy, and it is now preparing a fundamental realignment to reflect today's realities. This will include early work to construct the Architecture of Abundance – the physical and regulatory infrastructure to take full advantage of our energy abundance.
- **A #CommActUpdate:** The Communications and Technology Subcommittee is at the cutting edge of committee efforts to modernize the laws and agencies of the past to better serve consumers and products of the future. The panel has already collected stakeholder input and convened a series of expert witnesses via hearings to set the stage for an update to the Communications Act – a law written in the telegraph era and last updated when Palm Pilots were at the cutting edge.
- **Patient-Centered Health Care Reform:** The Energy and Commerce Committee's broad health jurisdiction puts it at the center of health care reform efforts in Congress. Republicans are working to shield Americans from harmful consequences

of the president's health care law and develop better options to make health care more affordable, flexible, and accessible to patients. The committee will continue its work to protect seniors from harmful Medicare cuts by repealing the broken Sustainable Growth Rate system of price controls and putting better, more modern Medicare physician payment models in its place, and it will address the expiring Children's Health Insurance Program to ensure states have better, more flexible options for helping vulnerable children.

- **Protecting Consumers and Commerce in the Internet Age:** The Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Subcommittee manages the modern manifestation of the committee's historic role overseeing interstate and foreign commerce. Today, that commerce increasingly occurs in cyberspace, which is why the committee and the CMT subcommittee in particular will be focused on data security and the implications of cyber threats to American commerce.
- **Pursuing Smart Environmental Regulation:** The Environment and the Economy Subcommittee has carved out a set of sensible principles for environmental regulation that balance state expertise and flexibility with meaningful federal standards to promote interstate commerce and job creation. These principles will guide early work on issues including coal ash management and chemical regulation.

Conclusion

The Energy and Commerce Committee's record in the 113th Congress proves that, in spite of perceived gridlock and amid spirited ideological differences between the parties, there are corners of Congress in which meaningful work continues to get done on behalf of the American people. Members are constantly developing new ideas and refining better approaches to existing programs. They are reaching across the aisle to find common ground, and they are reaching out to the American public to keep the committee's work open and engaging. It's a record the committee has worked hard to build, reflecting serious bipartisan effort, and with the items on the agenda for the 114th Congress, that record of success will only grow stronger.