

Committee on Energy and Commerce
Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery
of
Subcommittee on Energy Chairman Bobby L. Rush

Hearing on, “The Fiscal Year 2023 DOE Budget”

April 28, 2022

Good morning, everyone. Today’s Subcommittee hearing is on the Department of Energy’s Fiscal Year 2023 budget request. It is my honor, privilege, and pleasure to welcome the 16th Secretary of Energy, Jennifer Granholm, to testify before the Subcommittee. Madam Secretary, it is great to see you again.

The DoE’s budget request comes at a critical time.

The recent Russian invasion of Ukraine and its subsequent impact on energy markets around the world has shown the danger of relying on our old, outdated energy system in the 21st century. If we truly wish to become energy independent, we must dedicate ourselves to producing an abundance of clean energy made right here at home.

Madame Secretary, I am pleased that the DoE’s budget recognizes this fact and reflects that in its requests.

This budget contains a 7.4 percent increase to the Department’s funding, strengthening the Department’s core energy research goals while continuing to build upon last year’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law’s commitment to deploying clean energy. These investments in vital programs will ensure that Americans have access to clean, reliable, and affordable energy.

The Department’s budget also includes an admirable commitment towards equity and I am delighted to see that the Department’s budget also includes multiple commitments to the President’s Justice40 initiative and energy and environmental justice.

I believe this budget sets out a bold, yet realistic, vision for how the Department of Energy can help unlock a 21st century clean energy economy that will benefit all Americans.

Partnered with the still-vital investments the House passed last fall, it would set up this Administration to meet its climate commitments.

Secretary Granholm, I am eager to hear your testimony today and I want to thank you for your ongoing partnership and work with this Subcommittee. I look forward to continuing to work closely with you on these important goals and commitments.

With that, I recognize my friend, the distinguished Ranking Member from the great state of Michigan, Mr. Upton, for five minutes for an opening statement.