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Chris Wright
Before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
January 15, 2025

Thank you, Mister Chairman, Ranking Member Heinrich, and members of the Committee. Thank you also to Senator Hickenlooper for your kind remarks, friendship, and continued service on behalf of our Centennial State and great Nation.

Before I begin my remarks, I would like to recognize the members of my family, whom have joined me today. My wife Liz; my daughter, Schuyler, and her husband, Greg; my 6-month-old grandson, Miles; and my son, Arthur; and his fiancé, Aluel. Also in the crowd are my mother, Gayla, sister Kim, many extended family and friends as well. The most fortunate event in my very fortunate life was meeting my wife Liz when I was 18 years old. I came home that night and told my sister that I had met the woman that I would marry.

It is truly an honor to appear before this Committee as President-elect Trump's nominee for Secretary of Energy.

I am humbled by the great responsibility this position holds. America has a historic opportunity to secure our energy systems, deliver leadership in scientific and technological innovation, steward our weapons stockpiles, and meet Cold War legacy waste commitments.

I call myself a science geek, turned tech nerd, turned lifelong energy entrepreneur. My fascination with energy started at a young age in Denver, Colorado. I enrolled at MIT specifically to work on fusion

energy. I started graduate school at UC Berkeley where I worked on solar energy as well as power electronics.

Energy is the essential agent of change that enables everything that we do. A low energy society is poor. A highly energized society can bring health, wealth, and opportunity for all. The stated mission of the company that I founded – Liberty Energy – is to better human lives through energy. Liberty works directly in oil, natural gas, next generation geothermal and has partnerships in next-generation nuclear energy and new battery technology.

Energy has been a lifelong passion of mine, and I have never been shy about that fact. Then again, I have never been shy about much. President Trump shares my passion for energy and, if confirmed, I will work tirelessly to implement his bold agenda as an unabashed steward for all sources of affordable, reliable and secure American energy.

I see three immediate tasks where I will focus my attention if confirmed.

The first is to unleash American energy at home and abroad to restore energy dominance. The security of our nation begins with energy. Previous administrations have viewed energy as a liability instead of the immense national asset that it is. To compete globally, we must expand energy production, including commercial nuclear and liquified natural gas, and cut the cost of energy.

Second, we must lead the world in innovation and technology breakthroughs. Throughout my lifetime, technology and innovation have immeasurably enhanced the human condition. We must protect and accelerate the work of the Department's national laboratory network to secure America's competitive edge and its security. I

commit to working with Congress on the important missions of the national laboratories.

Third, we must build things in America again and remove barriers to progress. Federal policies today make it too easy to stop projects and very hard to start and complete projects. This makes energy more expensive and less reliable. President Trump is committed to lowering energy costs and to do so, we must prioritize cutting red tape, enabling private sector investments, and building the infrastructure we need to make energy more affordable for families and businesses.

I have met with almost every member of the Committee, and I appreciate the perspective, priorities and insight that you have shared. As a nerdy guy who reads and studies data, I will need the guidance and partnership of this Committee. I feel confident we can work together to make a difference. I look forward to answering your questions and, if confirmed, shepherding the President's bold energy agenda to unleash energy security and prosperity.

Mister Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Committee today, and I look forward to your questions.