

**STATEMENT OF ADAM SIEMINSKI  
NOMINEE TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENERGY INFORMATION  
ADMINISTRATION**

Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member Murkowski, distinguished members of the Committee – it is an honor and a privilege to appear before you today as President Obama’s nominee for Administrator of the Energy Information Administration. I’m grateful to the President and to Secretary Chu for their confidence in trusting me with this important assignment. If confirmed by the Senate, I will bring to the position the experience of 40-years of energy research and analysis. I have spent my career drawing on a wide variety of government, academic, NGO, and industry sources in an effort to understand, and be able to explain, the ever-changing energy markets, with a particular focus on petroleum, refined product and natural gas markets. To be confirmed for this position would be the high point of my career.

As a customer of EIA for virtually my entire professional career, I can attest to the fact EIA’s mission is as critical today as when it was created by Congress in 1977. As the Nation’s premier source of unbiased energy data, analysis and forecasting, EIA is required by law to prepare its products independently of policy positions taken within the Federal Government. As an analyst in investment research, I fully understand the critical need for independence in its preparation and delivery.

Since 2006 when I was appointed to the National Petroleum Council (NPC) by former Energy Secretary Bodman, I have been engaged in the work of the NPC, starting with the 2007 Global Oil and Gas Study, *The Hard Truths*, as well as its 2011 report, *Prudent Development*, requested by Energy Secretary Chu, which deals with ways to realize the potential of North America’s abundant natural gas and oil resources. As the NPC and virtually everybody who has ever looked at these issues emphasizes, the American people are very concerned about energy – its availability, reliability, cost, and environmental impact.

Energy is a complex subject, touching every aspect of daily life and the overall economy, involving a wide variety of technologies, and deeply affecting our interaction with the rest of the world. Understanding the situation both here and abroad is critical, especially with regard to oil and, increasingly, diesel and

gasoline trade. In the US, the collection of energy information straddles numerous regulatory authorities. EIA is uniquely qualified to deal with the complications that arise from this structure and to make sure that the data is relevant, timely and accurate, that the analyses are performed with integrity, and that the data and the projections are available widely. I valued these qualities as a user of EIA's output, and if confirmed would do my utmost to ensure its continuing credibility.

This is a sector where capital investments of billions of dollars are made in long lived infrastructure projects. I am acutely aware of the significance of those investments. This applies equally to mature elements of the sector as it does to emerging technologies such as renewable energy, energy storage, smart grids, and natural gas fueled vehicles. Understanding structural change and trends in efficiency on the part of energy consumers is also key. Ensuring the quality and timeliness of data and focusing EIA's finite resources on those elements that provide the most value to EIA's stakeholders will be my highest priorities.

I have watched the transition from price controls to the open-access competitive energy markets we see today. EIA's statistics and analysis have been invaluable to understanding the shifts in the natural gas industry from the early restructuring days to taking on the storage report – a national economic indicator – to the current dramatic transformation on the supply side. The resources base and technology that revitalized natural gas now appear on the verge of playing a similar role in oil production. EIA is now being called on to provide insights as policymakers grapple with these changes.

As EIA Administrator, I would carry on the work started by recent Administrators to understand and assess the interrelated roles played by fundamentals, financial market behavior and other factors in energy price formation. If confirmed I look forward to working with members of this committee and others both inside and outside of government in order to improve the information analytical base used for making sound energy decisions. In doing so, I will draw on a vast network of experts from the energy economics community and will strive to raise public understanding of these energy issues.

Finally I want to note that I got my start in the energy sector as a draftsman for the Golden Valley Electrical Association in Fairbanks, Alaska, during the summer of 1968. My first job in Washington was following air pollution policy and

investment issues after the passage of the Clean Air Act of 1970. More recently, I contributed to my former company's efforts in carbon markets, renewable energy, and clean energy investing. I understand the important roles that all of our fuels are playing in delivering energy to consumers.

I look forward to answering any questions members of the Committee may have - either now at this hearing or in writing for the record. Thank you.