

**Testimony of Kyle Haustveit**  
**Nominee for Assistant Secretary of Fossil Energy**  
**at the U.S. Department of Energy**  
**Before the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources**  
**May 8, 2025**

Chairman Lee, Ranking Member Heinrich, and distinguished members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I am deeply honored to be considered for the role of Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy at the U.S. Department of Energy. I want to express my sincere gratitude to President Trump for his nomination and to Energy Secretary Wright for his support.

I would also like to take a moment to thank my family and friends here with me today and those watching online. Here with me are my high school sweetheart and wife, Brea, our four children – Nevaeh, Harper, Noah, and Hudson – along with my parents, Tom and Donna, and several close friends – thank you all for your support.

I was born and raised in North Dakota, just a few miles from the historic Williston Basin discovery well. My family's roots run deep in both energy and agriculture. One grandfather managed drilling operations while the other farmed our family homestead, where he and my grandma still live today. Growing up, I developed a profound appreciation for both industries and the critical role energy plays in modern agriculture – from fueling tractors to providing the fertilizers that nourish our crops.

I am proud to say I am a third-generation energy worker. My family's connection to energy spans decades, and their hard work instilled in me a deep respect for the industry and its importance to our nation.

With a small nudge from my late grandfather, I pursued a degree in petroleum engineering at Montana Tech, followed by a MBA in energy from the University of Oklahoma. This combination of engineering and economic study has been instrumental in shaping my career and preparing me to address the challenges and opportunities in the energy sector.

Early in my career, I was fortunate to lead a team that invented and commercialized a diagnostic technique now used globally to optimize hydraulic fracturing and resource development. This experience sparked a growing passion for energy and technology, which led me to lead an Energy Ventures team.

In this role, our team had the privilege of investing in early-stage startups rooted in fundamental science, including a leading next-generation geothermal company, with operations in Nevada and a 500MW development underway in Utah.

Our team also conducted technical evaluations for innovative projects such as a direct lithium extraction from brine in Arkansas and California; carbon capture utilization and sequestration in Wyoming; and produced water treatment and beneficial use in New Mexico. These experiences

have given me a front-row seat to the incredible innovation happening in the energy industry across our resource-rich nation.

I have been blessed to build my career during one of the most transformative periods in energy history – the shale revolution. A revolution brought about by industry and enabled in part by fundamental research from our tremendous National Laboratories.

This technological breakthrough moved the U.S. from the world's largest importer of liquified natural gas (LNG) to the largest exporter, positioning us as the global leader in oil and natural gas production – transforming us from energy dependent to energy dominant.

The energy industry has not only powered our nation, but it has also fueled economic growth, strengthened national security, and improved the quality of life for millions of Americans and our allies around the world. U.S. natural gas has delivered affordable, reliable, and secure energy, while at the same time, reducing the emissions from electricity generation by more than 40 percent.

It has been a privilege to contribute to this progress, and I am passionately aligned with President Trump's common sense energy agenda – an agenda that will ensure future generations have access to affordable, reliable, secure, and abundant energy, made in America!

If confirmed, I will honor the fundamentals of science and economics to serve our country. I am committed to advancing policies that unleash U.S. energy dominance, foster innovation, and ensure that America remains a global leader in energy production and technology. If confirmed, I will work to leverage the incredible talents within DOE and our National Labs to drive forward cutting-edge research and development.

Simply put, energy is the backbone of our national security, our economy, and our way of life.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I look forward to your questions.