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# America Leads the Way/Our History as the Global Leader Reducing Emissions: U.S. House of Representatives Energy & Commerce Committee Hearing

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The Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials of the United States House of Representatives Energy & Commerce Committee (“Committee”) held a November 29th hearing titled:

*America Leads the Way: Our History as the Global Leader at Reducing Emissions (“Hearing”)*

The stated objective of the *Hearing* was to examine:

- United States experience/success in reducing emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases
- Expanding the benefits of affordable, secure energy domestically and around the world

A memorandum prepared by the Committee’s Majority Staff noted U.S. Environmental Protection Agency statistics such as:

- Combined emissions of criteria air pollutants dropped by 78% over the past 50 years
- Such reductions occurred despite:
  - United States gross domestic product increased 304%
  - Vehicle miles traveled increased 183%
  - Population increased over 60%
  - Energy consumption increased 48%
- Number of days across 35 major United States cities in which air quality reaches levels considered unhealthy for sensitive groups is approximately a quarter of the number reported in 2000
- Economy-wide net greenhouse gas emissions in 2021 were 17% below 2005 levels

The Majority Staff memorandum indicated that the following issues would be examined at the *Hearing*:

- The lessons of America’s economic, energy, and emissions-reducing experience.
- The benefits of American energy technology for energy access and prosperity.
- America’s history of expanding clean energy access domestically and abroad.

Witnesses at the *Hearing* included:

Mark W. Menezes

President and CEO

United States Energy Association

[\(Testimony\)](#)

Amanda Eversole

Executive Vice President and Chief Advocacy Officer

American Petroleum Institute

[\(Testimony\)](#)

Mark Mills

Senior Fellow

Manhattan Institute

[\(Testimony\)](#)

Karl Hausker, Ph.D.

Senior Fellow

World Resources Institute

[\(Testimony\)](#)

The Majority Staff memorandum can be found [here](#).