The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 30, 2025

Mr. Alan Armstrong
Chair
National Petroleum Council
1625 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-1656

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Many of President Trump's directives, including Executive Order 14156, ***Declaring a National Energy Emergency***, Executive Order 14154, ***Unleashing American Energy***, and Executive Order 14213, ***Establishing the National Energy Dominance Council***, underscore the critical role of domestic energy and natural resources in powering the Nation's economic prosperity and national security. Meeting future energy needs will require ingenuity, innovation, and market-based solutions.

Accordingly, I request that the National Petroleum Council (NPC) undertake a broad ***Future Energy Systems*** study with subcomponent deliverables designed to recognize and leverage the vast potential of domestic oil and natural gas resources and industry expertise to advance Administration goals for increasing the availability of affordable, reliable, and secure energy for American consumers and our allies. The scope of this study should be developed with key objectives, deliverables, and timelines mutually determined between the NPC and the Department. Please work with Deputy Assistant Secretary Ryan Peay from the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) to delineate the preliminary scope and subcomponent deliverables within the next 30 days.

For the initial deliverables within the ***Future Energy Systems*** study, I am requesting the NPC address two priority topics immediately, with reports delivered to me by December 2025. These topics are crucial to advancing the priorities outlined in President Trump's energy agenda and require prompt and focused attention:

Oil and Natural Gas Infrastructure Permitting. Streamlining and expediting permitting is essential for all parts of the energy value chain and for building infrastructure to meet future energy needs. Re-evaluating and updating the permitting section of the NPC's 2019 Dynamic Delivery study report with practical recommendations based on current legislation and regulations can provide meaningful input to support the effective redesign of government systems and siting of new energy infrastructure. The advice of the NPC on this topic will be particularly helpful in concert with the work of the National Energy Dominance Council. Important also will be insights regarding factors that affect industry's ability to attract and retain private sector investment or rapidly deploy new technologies that increase safety, integrity, or operational efficiency.

Gas-Electric Coordination. A failure of natural gas infrastructure to keep pace with growing natural gas demand has created natural gas supply challenges and revealed new risks to the reliability of interconnected natural gas and electric power systems. A misalignment between the electric power and natural gas markets has exacerbated these risks resulting in inadequate access to natural gas and cost impacts to power consumers. The misalignment is rooted in fundamental market differences that influence decision making and the pace of infrastructure development made worse by legacy decarbonization mandates and the rapid growth of electricity demand. The NPC, working with both natural gas suppliers and electric power producers, can bring forward unique insights regarding the growth of natural gas demand in the United States and resolution of the misalignment of the natural gas and electric markets that if not addressed could threaten energy security, reliability, and affordability. This study should assess how rising natural gas and electricity demand and shifting load patterns are straining natural gas pipelines in key regions of the United States; examine what impact these strains can have on energy reliability; and recommend actionable strategies to address the misalignment between these two industries that can prevent or mitigate reliability impacts. The study will fill an important gap and complement ongoing gas-electric reliability and coordination initiatives involving industry and/or government by specifically focusing on the energy reliability risk viewed from the perspective of natural gas infrastructure operations and capabilities.

For the broad ***Future Energy Systems*** study, I request the NPC consider other additional subcomponents for which it can deliver high-value, actionable, and timely advice. Topics that may meet these criteria include energy security, infrastructure security, and analyses supporting U.S. energy trade and competitiveness globally.

I welcome continued dialogue with the NPC as we work together to shape a new era of American technology leadership and energy dominance. Please keep me advised of progress on the efforts addressed in this letter.

Sincerely,

Chris Wright

Chris Wright
Secretary of Energy

cc: Ryan Lance
Vicki Hollub

Subject: Future Energy Systems Study Request
Date: Wednesday, November 26, 2025 at 11:10:26 AM Eastern Standard Time
From: Haustveit, Kyle
To: John Dabbar
CC: Ryan Peay, Blair Pasalic, Stephanie Plith, James Slutz, Margo Regier, Deen, Toby, Cohen, Derek

John,

Thank you for coming in to brief us on the status of the NPC studies earlier this month. Following our discussion, I wanted to provide additional information and clarity on what we'd like to see in the larger, overarching *Future Energy Systems* study that the NPC will work on subsequent to the December 3rd meeting:

- We'd like the Future Energy Systems study to focus on affordability, both in terms of supply (break-even pricing) and demand (average U.S. household impact).
- As part of the broader study, we'd like to see a number of additional shorter-term studies, including, but not limited to:
    - **Produced water**: A short-term study on alternatives to disposal with a focus on the Permian would be very helpful to the Department as it looks at future project and program planning. For desalination, a review of potential commercial uses for the desalinated water would be helpful.
    - **Gas storage demand**: We would value a short-term study that focuses on natural gas storage demand through the lenses of reliability and volatility in relation to production, consumption, and exports. An examination of crude storage solutions is not needed, as this is already largely in-place.
    - **Resource mapping**: We would value the NPC members' opinions on the possibility of a government-led national resource mapping effort of all federal lands, and a template that states could follow for best practices in resource mapping. We are not expecting the NPC to conduct resource mapping.

Within these guideposts, we welcome the NPC members' thoughts on the best ways to proceed.

Look forward to seeing you next week for the NPC meetings.

Thank you,

Kyle Haustveit
Assistant Secretary
Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office (HGEO)