

January 22, 2025

Dear Senator,

On behalf of our millions of members and supporters, we write with deep concern over the nomination of Chris Wright to lead the Department of Energy (DOE). President Trump already [promised](#) the oil and gas industry special favors in return for their financial backing, and with the choice of a fossil fuel executive to lead DOE it's clear he intends to double down on his promise. In addition to his inherent conflicts of interest trying to oversee his [own](#) industry and source of his personal riches, Mr. Wright has [no prior experience in government](#) which together make him unqualified to navigate the complexities of developing and enacting national energy policy. Based on his record, we ask that you oppose his nomination.

Mr. Wright's role as the [CEO and Chairman of Liberty Energy](#), the [second largest fracking company in the world](#), presents a significant conflict of interest for a nominee to lead the DOE. Fracking for oil and gas pollutes our air and water and contributes to climate pollution. [Exposure to fracking is linked to](#) premature deaths, pregnancy harms such as premature births and low birth weight, as well as health harms to children such as cancer in young children and childhood asthma.

In addition to contributing to health-harming pollution and climate change, Liberty Energy has [attacked pro-climate policies](#), suing to undo the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's [climate risk disclosure rule](#) that increases companies' transparency and accountability on climate pollution and impacts.

With the CEO of the second largest fracking company leading the DOE, fossil fuel industry leaders are sure to have outsized access to and influence over key decisionmaking at DOE at the expense of communities facing the devastating and escalating extreme weather events and [impacts of climate change](#), events that Mr. Wright [denies](#) are intensifying or increasing. [Fossil fuel executives have already celebrated](#) his nomination as an opportunity to end the DOE's pause on export authorizations for liquid natural gas (LNG), and Mr. Wright's [\\$50 million stake](#) in Liberty Energy poses a conflict of interest for his ability to objectively determine whether additional LNG exports are in the public interest. Instead, he will almost certainly rubber stamp future export authorizations to benefit fossil fuel executives despite recent DOE findings that [expanding LNG infrastructure](#) would increase household energy costs, negatively impact air and water quality in frontline communities, and exacerbate the climate crisis.

We cannot let the fate of the air we breathe, water we drink, and climate we live in be determined by those who sacrifice the health, safety, and well-being of communities across the country for polluters' profits. We cannot allow a fossil fuel executive to keep us more dependent on oil and gas and high energy prices while lining his and his friends' pockets at the expense of families. We are counting on you to put your constituents over the pockets of oil and gas executives by opposing the nomination of Mr. Wright.

Sincerely,

Accelerate Neighborhood Climate Action
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments
Arizona Climate Action Coalition
Businesses for a Livable Climate
Climate Action Campaign
Call to Action Colorado
CatholicNetwork US
Center for Oil and Gas Organizing
Change The Chamber
Clean Water Action
Climate Hawks Vote
Colorado Businesses for a Livable Climate
Community for Sustainable Energy
Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action
Earthjustice
Earthworks
Elders Climate Action
Environmental Protection Information
Center (EPIC)
Evergreen Action
Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance
Green House Connection Center
Green The Church
GreenLatinos
Greenpeace USA
Indivisible Ambassadors
Indivisible Marin
Interstate 70 Citizens Advisory Group
Jewish Earth Alliance- PA
KAO Consulting
Larimer Alliance for Health, Safety, &
Environment
League of Conservation Voters
Littleton Business Alliance
Mayfair Park Neighborhood Association
Mental Health & Inclusion Ministries
Mind's Eye Productions
Montbello Neighborhood Improvement
Association
Natural Resources Defense Council
New Mexico Environmental Law Center
NextGen America

North Range Concerned Citizens
Oil Change International
Our Sacred Earth
Physicians for Social Responsibility PA
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Public Citizen
Rachel Carson Council
RapidShift Network
Save the Environmental Protection Agency
Sierra Club
Small Business Alliance
Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance
Southwest Organization for Sustainability
Spirit of the Sun
Sunrise Movement
System Change Not Climate Change
Texas Campaign for the Environment
The Institute for a Progressive Nevada
Turtle Island Restoration Network
Union of Concerned Scientists
Unite North Metro Denver
Wall of Women
Washington Wild
WE ACT for Environmental Justice
Western Slope Businesses for a Livable
Climate
Western Watersheds Project
Womxn From The Mountain
Working for Racial Equity
Zero Hour