



Energy on the Ballot

How the Midterms Could Impact Energy Policy

November 19, 2026

CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS NETWORK

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy®

Agenda

- **Welcome, Election Analysis, and Impacts on Energy**
  - Lynn Abramson, President, Clean Energy Business Network
  - Genevieve Cullen, Senior Policy Advisor, Business Council for Sustainable Energy
  - Andy Barnes, Vice President, Clean Energy Business Network
- **Panel: Reactions from Both Sides of the Aisle**
  - Liam Donovan, President, Targeted Victory
  - Heather Reams, Founder and CEO, Conexus Strategies
  - Jesse Lee, Senior Advisor for Clean Energy Economy, Climate Power

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Hosts



Genevieve Cullen
Senior Policy Advisor
BCSE



Lynn Abramson
President
CEBN



Andy Barnes
Vice President
CEBN

CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS NETWORK®

the small business voice for the clean energy economy

- CEBN helps small energy businesses navigate and engage in federal energy policies and funding opportunities.
- Network spans 8,000+ small business and community leaders across the U.S. and a broad range of energy technologies



CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS NETWORK

2026 Network Survey

Key data and takeaways (137 unique responses)

See full results here

CEBN serves *very* small businesses & organizations with little bandwidth to navigate federal policy.

- 63% reported ≤ 10 employees and 85% ≤ 50 employees.
- 77% have no dedicated government relations staff.
- 61% not paying member of any other trade associations.
- Span all 50 U.S. states and broad range of technologies.

However, federal policies and funding *are* important to them. CEBN serves a critical gap.

- 51% have received federal grants/financial assistance.
- 64% impacted directly or indirectly by canceled grants.
- Policy issues with greatest impact on their work include tax credits, canceled DOE projects, and R&D funding.
- Priorities for accelerating energy innovation include federal investments in pilot/demo projects, tax incentives, and R&D.

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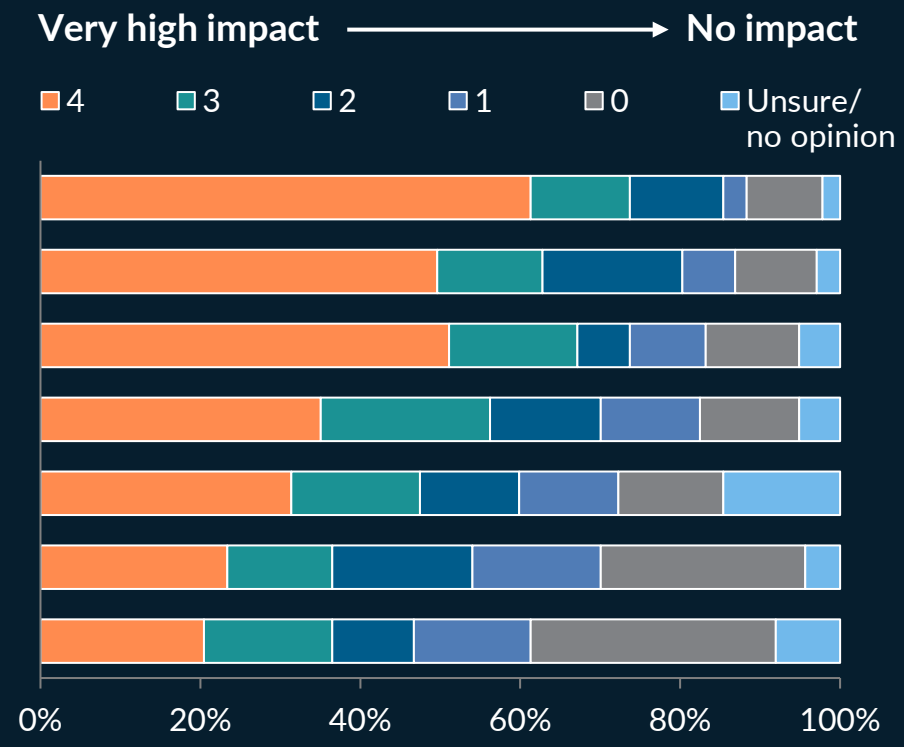
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POLICY MEASURES IMPACTING BUSINESS	AVG
Clean energy/energy efficiency tax credits	3.09
Cancelled/paused DOE projects	2.80
R&D funding from DOE and other agencies	2.75
Federal permitting of energy infrastructure	2.44
SBIR/STTR programs	2.11
EPA power plant emissions/air quality rules	1.84
Farm Bill programs	1.65



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The Business Council for Sustainable Energy®

Our Coalition Leads the Way

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) is a coalition of companies and trade associations that deploy clean energy and decarbonization solutions, with a sector focus on **energy efficiency**, **natural gas**, and **renewable energy**.

BCSE advocates for policies that support a diverse portfolio of energy options and ensure access to affordable, reliable, and clean energy solutions.

BCSE supports business development, networking, and knowledge exchange among its members and networks.

BCSE provides a credible, broad-based business coalition on clean energy market trends and policy impacts.

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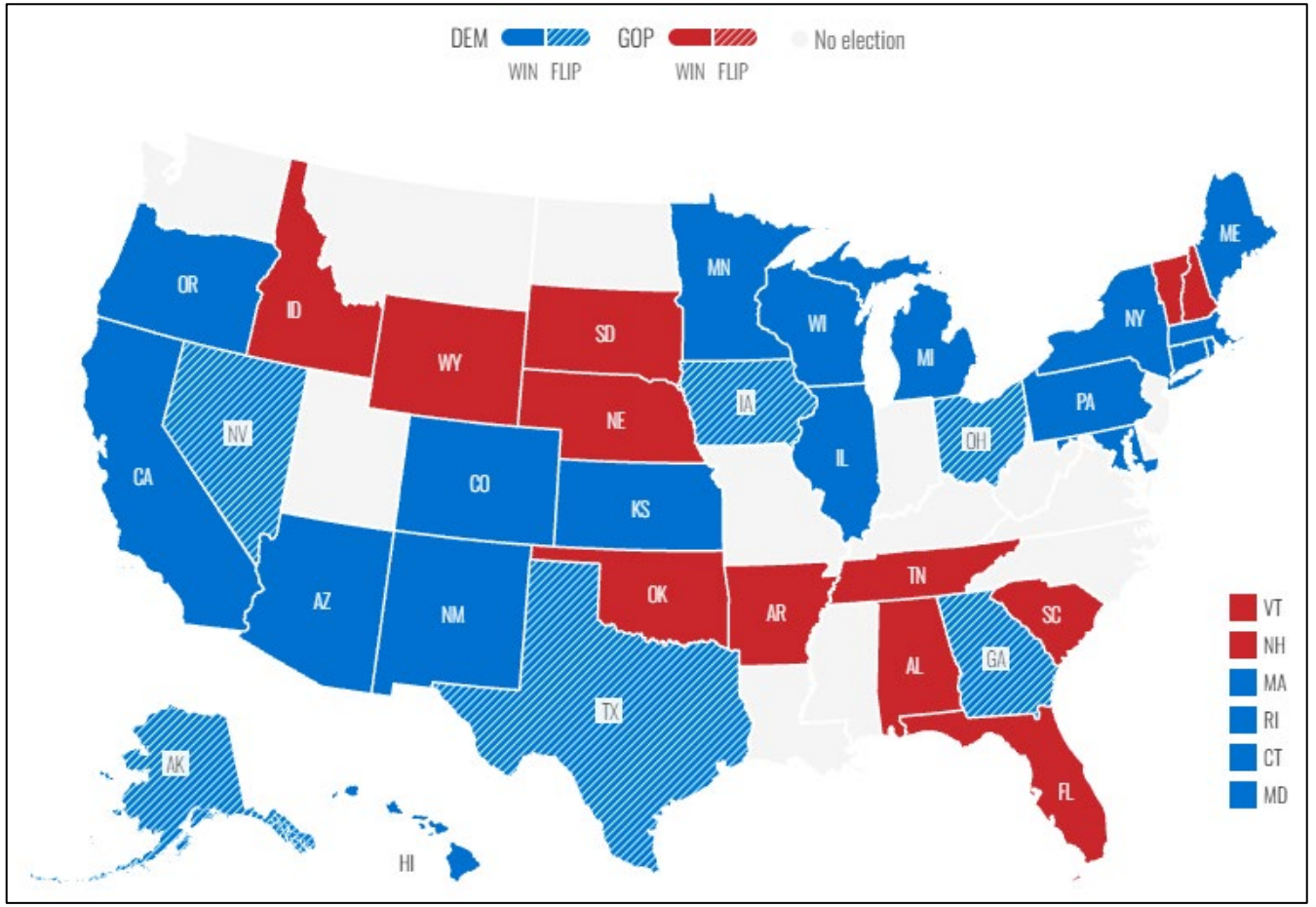
The Business Council for Sustainable Energy®

2026 Membership



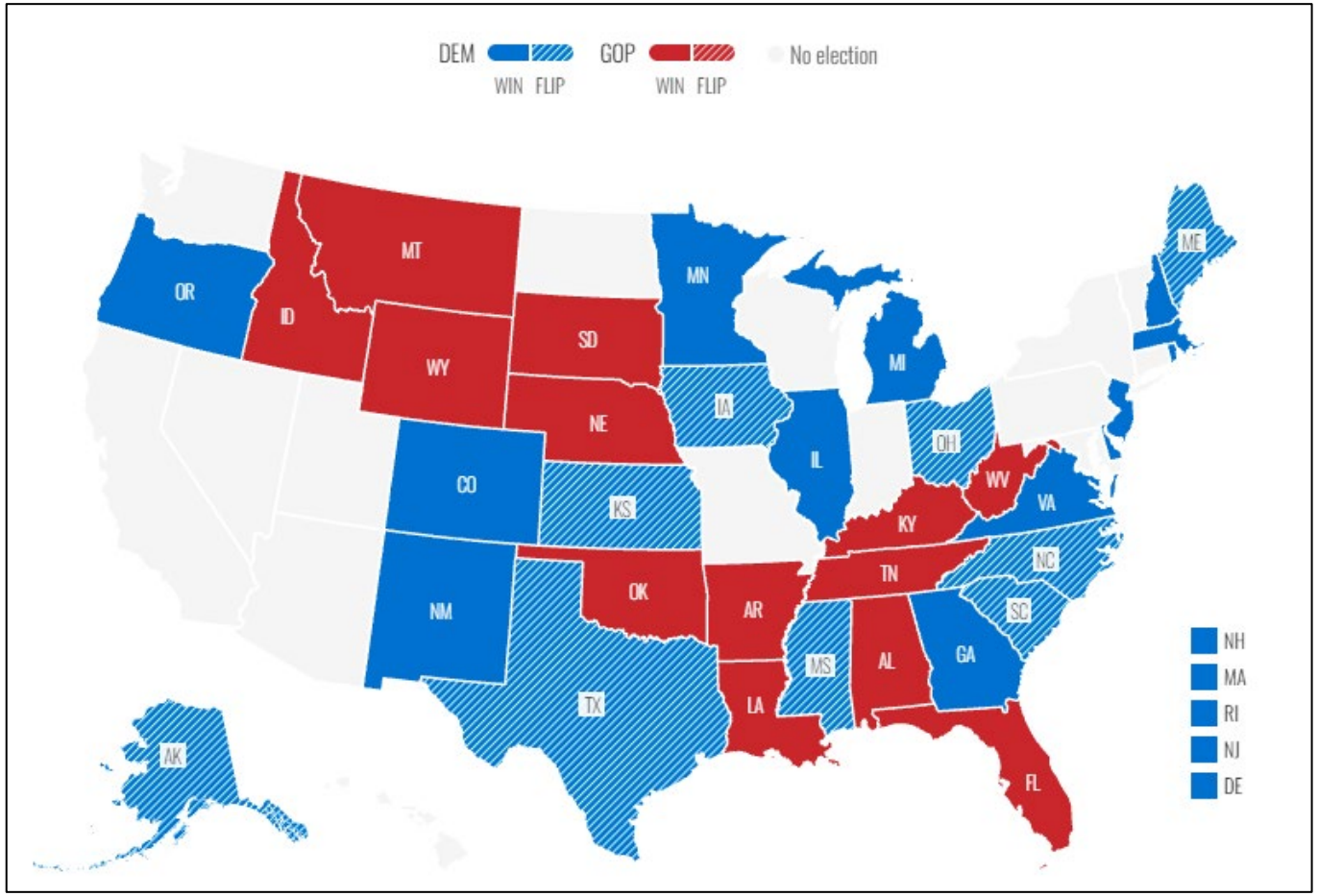
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Midterm Election Results: Governorships



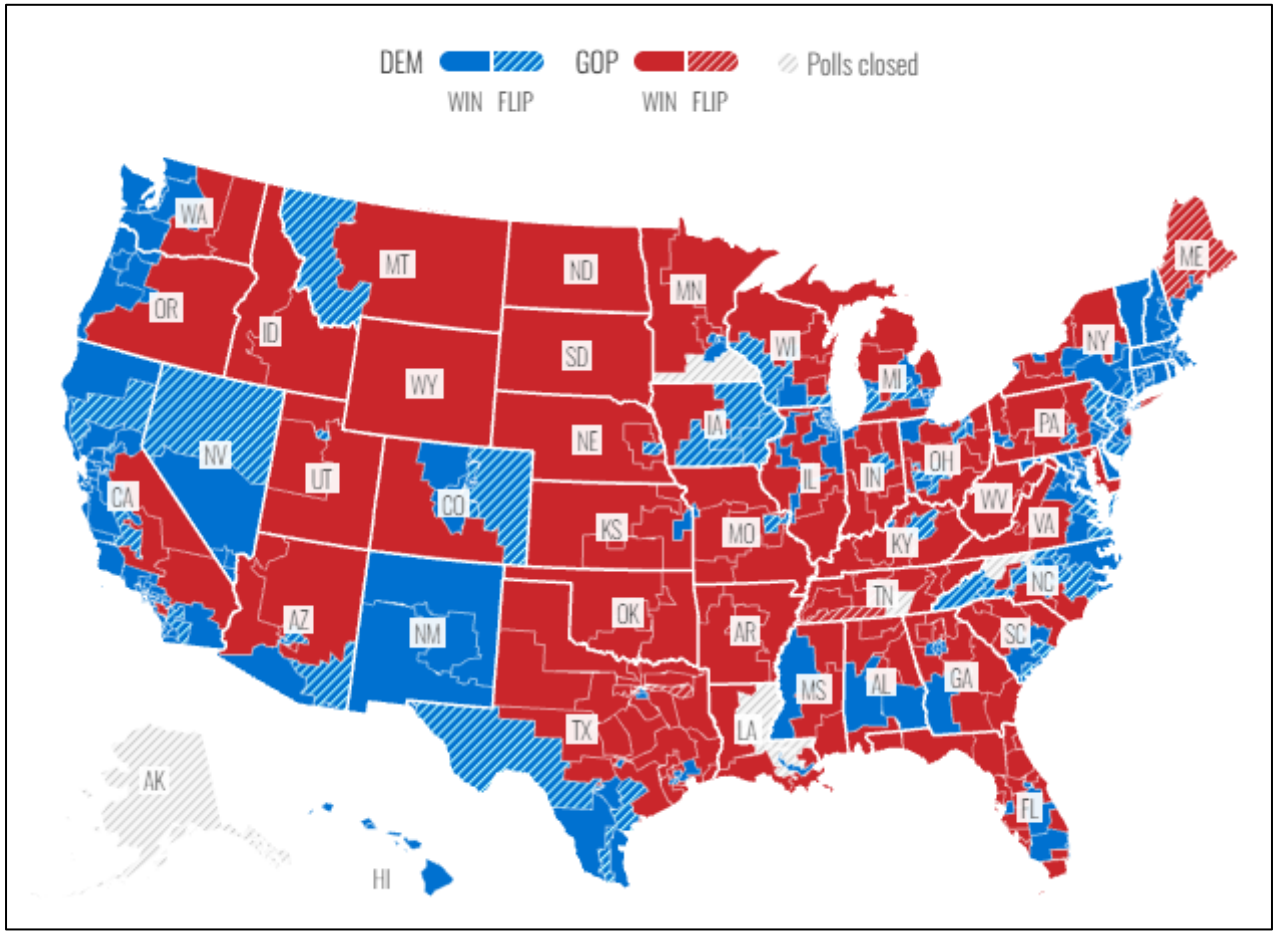
Graphic: NBC News

Midterm Election Results: Senate



Graphic: NBC News

Midterm Election Results: House



Graphic: NBC News

Balance of Power in the 120th Congress

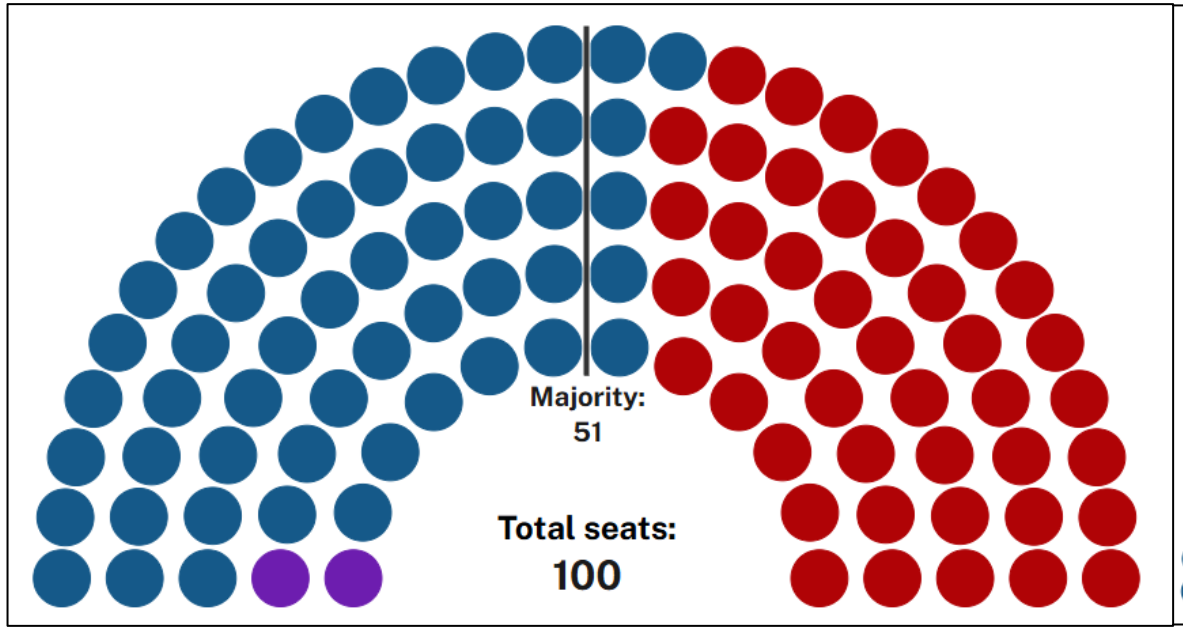
SENATE

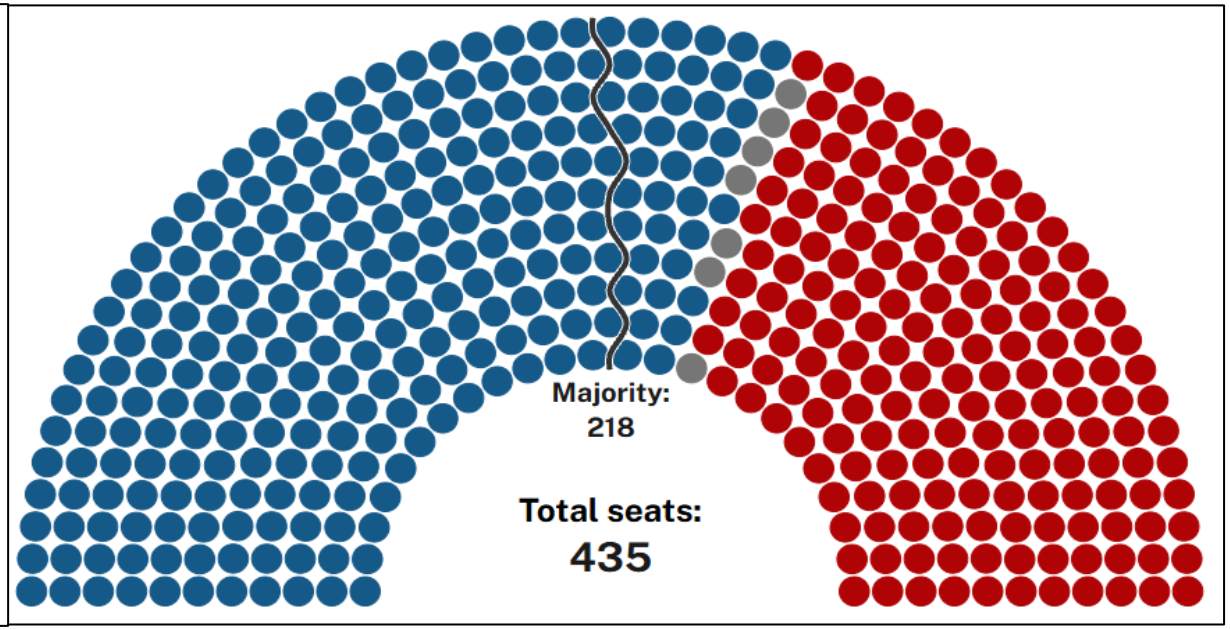
56 Ds | 44 Rs

HOUSE

257 Ds | 172 Rs

(6 races still pending)





Graphics: Brittanica

Legislative Preview: Lame Duck

Most applicable to energy policy:

- Permitting Reform (BAAJA)
- Funding federal govt. beyond Dec. 11

Other issues Congress may try to tackle:

- Defense spending (NDAA)
- Surface transportation bill
- Farm bill
- FISA reauthorization
- Raising the debt limit through reconciliation
- Confirming judicial nominees



Legislative Preview: 120th Congress

- Raising debt limit
- FY27 funding
- Democratic oversight
- Affordability:
  - Energy prices
  - Healthcare
- Energy tax credits



Potential Leadership in the 120th Congress

None of the chamber or committee leadership positions have been confirmed yet. These are the likely candidates and challengers.

Chambers

SENATE	
Majority Leader:	Sen. Schumer (D-NY) or Sen. Van Hollen (D-MD)
Majority Whip:	Sen. Schatz (D-HI
Minority Leader:	Sen. Thune (R-SD)
Minority Whip:	Sen. Barrasso (R-WY)

HOUSE	
Speaker of the House:	Rep. Jeffries (D-NY-08)
Majority Leader:	Rep. Clark (D-MA-05)
Majority Whip:	Rep. Aguilar (D-CA-33)
Minority Leader:	Rep. Jordan (R-OH-04)
Minority Whip:	Rep. Emmer (R-MN-06)

Committees

SENATE	
Chair	**Ranking Member**
Agriculture	
Sen. Brown (D-OH)	Sen. Boozman (R-AR)
Appropriations	
Sen. Murray (D-WA)	Sen. Murkowski (R-AK) Sen. Moran (R-KS)
Appropriations: Energy & Water Subcommittee	
Sen. Murray (D-WA)	Sen. Murkowski (R-AK)
Energy and Natural Resources	
Sen. Heinrich (D-NM)	Sen. McCormick (R-PA)
Environment and Public Works	
Sen. Merkley (D-OR)	Sen. Capito (R-WV)
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	
Sen. Cantwell (D-WA)	Sen. Cruz (R-TX)
Small Business	
Sen. Markey (D-MA)	Sen. Young (R-IN)
Finance	
Sen. Wyden (D-OR)	Sen. Crapo (R-ID)

HOUSE	
Chair	**Ranking Member**
Agriculture	
Rep. Costa (D-CA-21) Rep. Brown (D-OH-11)	Rep. Thompson (R-PA-15)* Rep. Scott (R-GA-08)
Appropriations	
Rep. De Lauro (D-CT-03)	Rep. Cole (R-OK-04)
Appropriations: Energy & Water Subcommittee	
Rep. Kaptur (D-OH-09)	Rep. Fleischmann (R-TN-03)
Energy and Commerce	
Rep. Pallone (D-NJ-06)	Rep. Guthrie (R-KY-02)
Natural Resources	
Rep. Huffman (D-CA-02)	Rep. Gosar (R-AZ-04) Rep. Stauber (R-MN-08)
Science, Space, and Technology	
Rep. Lofgren (D-CA-18)	Rep. Babin (R-TX-36)
Transportation & Infrastructure	
Rep. Larsen (D-WA-02)	Rep. Rouzer (R-NC-07)
Small Business	
Rep. McGarvey (D-KY-03)	Rep. Williams (R-TX-25)
Ways & Means	
Rep. Neal (D-MA-01)	Rep. Smith (R-MO-08)

Panelists



Liam Donovan
President
Targeted Victory



Heather Reams
Founder and CEO
Conexus Strategies



Jesse Lee
Snr. Advisor
Clean Energy Economy
Climate Power