December 16, 2025

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman
House Natural Resources Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jared Huffman
Ranking Member
House Natural Resources Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Stauber
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
House Natural Resources Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Yassamin Ansari
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
House Natural Resources Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Westerman. Ranking Member Huffman, Chairman Stauber, and Ranking Member Ansari:

On behalf of the Enhanced Geothermal Systems Deployment Coalition (EGS DC), which represents the full energy value chain of the enhanced geothermal systems (EGS) industry – from drill bits to data centers – we write to urge the Committee to advance the legislation under consideration today. Doing so will help accelerate the rapid deployment of EGS projects in the U.S., support next-generation energy technologies, modernize America's energy infrastructure, lower energy costs for families and businesses, and strengthen long-term economic and energy resilience.

EGS development leverages unconventional oil and gas technology to deliver around-the-clock clean power from hot rock. Through horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing, EGS operators can unlock gigawatts (GW) of geothermal energy in previously inaccessible regions. With the U.S. entering a new era of rapidly increasing electricity demand, driven by artificial intelligence (AI), advanced manufacturing, and broader electrification, bringing clean, baseload energy sources that are reliable and affordable onto the grid is paramount.

Today, geothermal power contributes less than four GW to our nation's electricity supply. Yet its potential is far greater. In 2019, the Department of Energy (DOE) estimated that next-generation geothermal technologies could provide up to 60 GW of firm power by 2050, a figure that now appears conservative given recent breakthroughs in drilling technologies and drilling speeds.[1] Crucially, EGS projects are no longer a distant promise; they are beginning to meet real energy demand today. Large-scale commercial projects are under development in the American West, and more than four GW of geothermal capacity is currently in utility interconnection queues.

With smart, targeted policy, such as the bipartisan permitting reforms under consideration today, Congress and the Trump-Vance administration could unlock more than ten GW of EGS capacity by 2030. This buildout would provide the backbone of reliable power required for the rapid growth of artificial intelligence and advanced manufacturing, while creating thousands of high-quality, long-term energy jobs.

[1] GeoVision: Harnessing the Heat Beneath Our Feet, Department of Energy

To maintain the U.S.'s position as a global leader in geothermal energy and achieve its potential for abundant domestic energy production, improvements to permitting processes are necessary. Lengthy permitting and administrative requirements can delay geothermal development by up to a decade.[2] Developing EGS projects on public lands requires extensive environmental reviews and multiple approvals under the *National Environmental Policy Act of 1969* (NEPA), a process that is too often lengthy, duplicative, and vulnerable to delays. These procedural inefficiencies create bottlenecks to development, lengthen project timelines, limit access to private financing, and slow technological progress. Streamlining federal permitting, while maintaining strong environmental protections, is critical to unlocking the nation's geothermal potential.

We appreciate the Committee's leadership and continued attention to geothermal energy and strongly support the advancement of all nine bills under consideration today, which will help accelerate the responsible deployment of next-generation geothermal technologies nationwide:

- *Geothermal Energy Opportunity (GEO) Act* (H.R. 301; Rep. Celeste Maloy, R-UT)
- *Geothermal Cost-Recovery Authority Act of 2025* (H.R. 398; Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-NY)
- *Streamlining Thermal Energy through Advanced Mechanisms (STEAM) Act* (H.R. 1077; Rep. Susie Lee, D-NV)
- *Committing Leases for Energy Access Now (CLEAN) Act* (H.R. 1687; Rep. Russ Fulcher, R-ID)
- *Enhancing Geothermal Production on Federal Lands Act* (H.R. 5576; Rep. Russ Fulcher, R-ID)
- *Harnessing Energy At Thermal Sources* (HEATS) Act (H.R. 5587; Rep. Young Kim, R-CA)
- *Geothermal Gold Book Development Act* (H.R. 5617; Rep. Yassamin Ansari, D-AZ)
- *Geothermal Ombudsman for National Deployment and Optimal Reviews Act* (H.R. 5631; Rep. Jeff Hurd, R-CO)
- *Geothermal Royalty Reform Act* (H.R. 5638; Rep. Mike Kennedy, R-UT)

Enhanced geothermal is a strategic baseload energy asset that can deliver reliable, domestic, power at scale for decades to come. Securing the nation's geothermal future is essential to grid reliability, energy affordability, AI dominance, and long-term national competitiveness. We urge the Committee to continue advancing bold geothermal policy reforms and appreciate the opportunity to submit this letter for the hearing record.

Sincerely,

The Enhanced Geothermal Systems Deployment Coalition (EGS DC)

*About EGS DC: The Enhanced Geothermal Systems Deployment Coalition (EGS DC) launched to promote policies that allow for rapid deployment of enhanced geothermal systems to meet the growing demand for firm, reliable and affordable electricity generation throughout the county. The EGS DC members include Fervo Energy, Devon Energy, Vallourec, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, NVIDIA, SLB, Baker Hughes, and PG&E.*

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[2] The Future of Geothermal Energy, The International Energy Agency