

So when you talk about getting the economy back on track, you don't need a team of economists to come in and figure out some new way to invent the wheel.

Mr. Speaker, the answer is sitting right underneath our feet. In many cases, it is the energy that is trapped, not trapped by the lack of ingenuity, because Americans, more than anybody in the world, have figured out great ways to go and use technology, to go and get those resources, attract those resources, explore and then produce those resources.

But, unfortunately, their biggest challenge every day is not the competition from other States, not the competition from other companies. It is the challenge of the threatening regulations from this Obama administration that are trying to shut those opportunities down. It has real impacts on real people, the coal industry, the oil industry, the natural gas industry, all across the board.

When our allies around the world are looking to us and saying, "We want to trade with the United States," we want to be able to buy the oil that America is generating, that we have now a surplus of and, yet, the President wants to issue a veto threat when we say let's allow for exporting of oil, for goodness sake.

We have an abundance of it. People are getting laid off in the United States, those middle class workers that the President loves talking about at photo-ops, who are being laid off because of his policies.

We have got the technology. We have got the expertise. We are the world leader, Mr. Speaker. All we need is for the right policies to unleash that potential, to unleash that opportunity, to create those American jobs.

So as we have been talking about tonight, the House will actually be taking action—not sitting on the sidelines, not just criticizing, but taking action—bringing bills on the House floor this week to open up those opportunities for hardworking taxpayers, to create more middle class opportunities for people who want to be a part of this industry, but also to lower costs for these middle class families who are struggling under these tough economic times to be able to have more opportunities for themselves and their families.

Hopefully, we will continue this debate throughout this week and throughout the rest of this Congress as we bring these good pieces of legislation to open up those resources again, as the placard says at the top of the House Chamber here, to develop the resources of this land so that America can be the world leader in energy.

So we don't have to get our energy from countries who don't like us, but we can actually export and create more job opportunities and help our allies around the world by undermining coun-

tries like Iran and Russia and others who want to do them harm.

I look forward to continuing this debate. I am so proud to be a part of this effort in the House to create more energy opportunities in America.

I thank my colleague from Ohio for leading in this effort.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. I thank the gentleman.

Our whip comes from a State that has a very rich heritage, a rich legacy of energy production, both onshore and offshore. And so you have lived it. The people that you represent live it every day. I thank you for your passion on this issue as well.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 9 minutes remaining.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, seeing as there are no further Members to speak this evening, I will summarize.

I mentioned earlier that coal-fired power had provided the energy for America's innovative engine for generations. We have now got new energy resources that have become available to us.

I can remember—and I am sure many Members can—where they were the day that Neil Armstrong stepped foot out on the Moon. I am reminded of the excitement and the energy that we felt, the enthusiasm, the pride that we felt, when President John F. Kennedy announced that we were going to put a man on the Moon within the next decade.

□ 2130

That was in 1960, I believe, when he made that statement. It didn't take us until the end of the decade. We did it in 1969.

Mr. Speaker, look what happened as a result of that. Every institution in America—academia, the medical industry, and the scientific community—everyone got behind the Moon race.

We have got a stagnant economy struggling to get its feet underneath us in light of the staggering pressure from Federal regulations from the likes of the EPA, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, the Interior, and so forth. Imagine what would happen if we had an all-of-the-above energy policy that sounded something like this: starting today, we are going to set a goal to become energy independent and secure by the year 2020. That is only 5 short years from now.

But we have made tremendous progress. We are going to continue to use the vast coal resources that we have at our disposal. We are going to harvest and use the natural gas and oil resources that we possess. We are going to expand on our nuclear energy capability. And, yes, we are going to let a private sector free market pursue alternative forms of energy—not at tax-

payer expense, but at entrepreneur expense where brilliant minds will try and break the code of being able to store up and harness, for future use, energy from the wind and the Sun. They can't meet our heavy-lifting energy needs today, but who knows what great discoveries that we will find in the future?

I believe if we had an energy vision, a true, all-of-the-above energy vision that sounded like that, you would, once again, see our young people lining up to get into institutions to prepare themselves for careers in energy production, storage, distribution, and usage. You would find companies with the certainty to be able to grow and expand. You would see a resurgence of manufacturing as America, once again, began to innovate and put its research and development ingenuity to work to find new products and new discoveries.

The Pope stood right here on this House floor just a few short weeks ago. He said: Why do so many people around the world want to come to America? I am paraphrasing, but he said that they want to come here because America is the land of dreamers.

We are the problem solvers. From the discovery of electricity, the invention of the light bulb, the invention of the combustion engine, mass production of automobiles, flight, space travel, computing and telecommunications innovation, and medical marvels beyond belief, so much of what the world enjoys today came from the ingenuity and the innovation of the American Dream—a dream powered by the coal industry, a dream powered now by a combination of oil, gas, coal, and nuclear energy.

Mr. Speaker, we now know that our policies in the energy sector have been based on fears of scarcity, but we no longer have to yield to those fears. We have the resources, the know-how, and the wherewithal to be energy independent and secure. With H.R. 8, the Architecture of Abundance, we are going to be giving the Senate and the President an opportunity to launch America into this next great vision of energy independence and security by the end of the decade. I hope they will take that opportunity seriously.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today through December 3 on account of medical issues.

Mr. FARR (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of illness.

Mr. DEFAZIO (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of medical leave.

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

AMENDMENT TO THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,

Washington, DC, November 30, 2015.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker, The Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am pleased to submit for printing in the Congressional Record, pursuant to Rule XI, clause 2(a) of the Rules of the House, a copy of the Rules of the Committee on Ways and Means, which were adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee on January 21, 2015, and were revised at the business meeting of the Committee on November 18, 2015.

Sincerely,

KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman.

(As Adopted by the Committee on November 18, 2015)

A. GENERAL

RULE 1. APPLICATION OF HOUSE RULES

The rules of the House are the rules of the Committee on Ways and Means and its subcommittees so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, is a non-debatable motion of high privilege in the Committee.

Each subcommittee of the Committee is part of the Committee and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and to its rules so far as applicable. Written rules adopted by the Committee, not inconsistent with the Rules of the House, shall be binding on each subcommittee of the Committee.

The provisions of rule XI of the Rules of the House are incorporated by reference as the rules of the Committee to the extent applicable.

RULE 2. MEETING DATE AND QUORUMS

The regular meeting day of the Committee on Ways and Means shall be on the second Wednesday of each month while the House is in session. However, the Committee shall not meet on the regularly scheduled meeting day if there is no business to be considered.

A majority of the Committee constitutes a quorum for business; provided however, that two Members shall constitute a quorum at any regularly scheduled hearing called for the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence. In establishing a quorum for purposes of a public hearing, every effort shall be made to secure the presence of at least one Member each from the majority and the minority.

The Chairman of the Committee may call and convene, as he considers necessary, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committee shall meet pursuant to the call of the Chair.

RULE 3. COMMITTEE BUDGET

For each Congress, the Chairman, in consultation with the Majority Members of the Committee, shall prepare a preliminary budget. Such budget shall include necessary amounts for staff personnel, travel, investigation, and other expenses of the Committee. After consultation with the Minority Members, the Chairman shall include an amount budgeted by Minority Members for staff under their direction and supervision.

RULE 4. PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS

Any Committee or Subcommittee print, document, or similar material prepared for

public distribution shall either be approved by the Committee or Subcommittee prior to distribution and opportunity afforded for the inclusion of supplemental, minority or additional views, or such document shall prominently display near the top of its cover the following: "Majority [or Minority] Staff Report," as appropriate.

The requirements of this rule shall apply only to the publication of policy-oriented, analytical documents, and not to the publication of public hearings, legislative documents, documents which are administrative in nature or reports which are required to be submitted to the Committee under public law. The appropriate characterization of a document subject to this rule shall be determined after consultation with the Minority.

RULE 5. OFFICIAL TRAVEL

Consistent with the primary expense resolution and such additional expense resolution as may have been approved, the provisions of this rule shall govern official travel of Committee Members and Committee staff. Official travel to be reimbursed from funds set aside for the full Committee for any Member or any Committee staff member shall be paid only upon the prior authorization of the Chairman. Official travel may be authorized by the Chairman for any Member and any Committee staff member in connection with the attendance of hearings conducted by the Committee, its Subcommittees, or any other Committee or Subcommittee of the Congress on matters relevant to the general jurisdiction of the Committee, and meetings, conferences, facility inspections, and investigations which involve activities or subject matter relevant to the general jurisdiction of the Committee. Before such authorization is given, there shall be submitted to the Chairman in writing the following:

- (1) The purpose of the official travel;
- (2) The dates during which the official travel is to be made and the date or dates of the event for which the official travel is being made;
- (3) The location of the event for which the official travel is to be made; and
- (4) The names of the Members and Committee staff seeking authorization.

In the case of official travel of Members and staff of a Subcommittee to hearings, meetings, conferences, facility inspections and investigations involving activities or subject matter under the jurisdiction of such Subcommittee, prior authorization must be obtained from the Subcommittee Chairman and the full Committee Chairman. Such prior authorization shall be given by the full Committee Chairman only upon the representation by the applicable Subcommittee Chairman in writing setting forth those items enumerated above.

Within 60 days of the conclusion of any official travel authorized under this rule, there shall be submitted to the full Committee Chairman a written report covering the information gained as a result of the hearing, meeting, conference, facility inspection or investigation attended pursuant to such official travel.

RULE 6. AVAILABILITY OF COMMITTEE RECORDS AND PUBLICATIONS

The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with Rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of Rule VII, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on the written request of any Member of the Committee. The Committee shall, to the

maximum extent feasible, make its publications available in electronic form.

RULE 7. COMMITTEE WEBSITE

The Chairman shall maintain an official Committee website for the purpose of furthering the Committee's legislative and oversight responsibilities, including communicating information about the Committee's activities to Committee members and other members of the House. The ranking minority member may maintain a similar website for the same purpose, including communicating information about the activities of the minority to Committee members and other members of the House.

B. SUBCOMMITTEES

RULE 8. SUBCOMMITTEE RATIOS AND JURISDICTION

All matters referred to the Committee on Ways and Means involving revenue measures, except those revenue measures referred to Subcommittees under paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 shall be considered by the full Committee and not in Subcommittee. There shall be six standing Subcommittees as follows: a Subcommittee on Trade; a Subcommittee on Oversight; a Subcommittee on Health; a Subcommittee on Social Security; a Subcommittee on Human Resources; and a Subcommittee on Tax Policy. The ratio of Republicans to Democrats on any Subcommittee of the Committee shall be consistent with the ratio of Republicans to Democrats on the full Committee.

1. The Subcommittee on Trade shall consist of 16 Members, 10 of whom shall be Republicans and 6 of whom shall be Democrats.

The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Trade shall include bills and matters referred to the Committee on Ways and Means that relate to customs and customs administration including tariff and import fee structure, classification, valuation of and special rules applying to imports, and special tariff provisions and procedures which relate to customs operation affecting exports and imports; import trade matters, including import impact, industry relief from injurious imports, adjustment assistance and programs to encourage competitive responses to imports, unfair import practices including antidumping and countervailing duty provisions, and import policy which relates to dependence on foreign sources of supply; commodity agreements and reciprocal trade agreements involving multilateral and bilateral trade negotiations and implementation of agreements involving tariff and non-tariff trade barriers to and distortions of international trade; international rules, organizations and institutional aspects of international trade agreements; budget authorizations for the customs revenue functions of the Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. International Trade Commission, and the U.S. Trade Representative; and special trade-related problems involving market access, competitive conditions of specific industries, export policy and promotion, access to materials in short supply, bilateral trade relations including trade with developing countries, operations of multinational corporations, and trade with non-market economies.

2. The Subcommittee on Oversight shall consist of 11 Members, 7 of whom shall be Republicans and 4 of whom shall be Democrats.

The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Oversight shall include all matters within the scope of the full Committee's jurisdiction but shall be limited to existing law. Said oversight jurisdiction shall not be exclusive but shall be concurrent with that of the other Subcommittees. With respect to matters involving the Internal Revenue Code