

under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 82, Eric Matthew Ueland, of Virginia, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

John Thune, John Barrasso, Eric Schmitt, Roger Marshall, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Joni Ernst, Pete Ricketts, Tom Cotton, James E. Risch, Jon A. Husted, James Lankford, Katie Boyd Britt, John Hoeven, Kevin Cramer, Bernie Moreno, Bill Hagerty, Chuck Grassley.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 88.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Sean Donahue, of Florida, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 88, Sean Donahue, of Florida, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

John Thune, Mike Crapo, Thom Tillis, Cynthia M. Lummis, Mike Rounds, Rick Scott, Roger F. Wicker, Katie Boyd Britt, Steve Daines, John Boozman, John R. Curtis, James E. Risch, John Barrasso, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Dan Sullivan, Bernie Moreno, Jim Justice.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Crowley nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 76, Monica Crowley, of New York, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service.

John Thune, Jim Justice, Ted Cruz, Bernie Moreno, Jon A. Husted, Steve Daines, John R. Curtis, Tommy Tuberville, Tim Sheehy, Pete Ricketts, Joni Ernst, James E. Risch, Mike Rounds, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Eric Schmitt, Katie Boyd Britt, John Barrasso.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Monica Crowley, of New York, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 241 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	

NAYS—47

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). On this vote, the yeas are 53, the nays are 47.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Monica Crowley, of New York, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

ENERGY

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, today, Donald Trump's Department of Energy announced the largest deregulatory effort in the Department of Energy's history, with 47 regulations in the Department of Energy slashed in one fell swoop in the name of freedom on the same day that the House Ways and Means Committee proposed to slash clean energy tax credits and just a few days after the House Energy and Commerce Committee proposed to destroy critical programs that reduce hazardous air pollution in exchange for fast-tracking dirty fossil fuels.

This isn't one big beautiful bill, as Donald Trump calls it; it is a big billionaire bailout—that is what this whole thing is about—and the only freedom this announcement guarantees is the freedom to pollute, overcharge, and mislead the American people.

So let's be clear. These attacks are not common sense. These attacks on energy policy—on the environmental policy of the United States—is not common sense; it is nonsense which they are trying to sell. They are not about choice; they are about giving fossil fuel corporations and manufacturers a license to pollute on the one hand and to be profiteers on the other. This is not deregulation; it is the desecration of decades of bipartisan progress on public health and on the truth.

Republicans are willing to throw \$420 billion in clean energy investments and 400,000 jobs in red and blue States right down the drain. This would be a disaster for our economy and good-paying jobs. What does that look like in action? Well, let's just go through it. Let's go through what they are doing.

By the way, Chris Wright is the Secretary of Energy, and Chris Wright says: Well, I am a reasonable man.

And he seems like a very likable person. But, in fact, Chris Wright is a radical. He is an absolute, outright radical, trying to destroy the clean energy future of the United States. So while he says he believes in all of the above, we know he is an oil man; he is a gas man. He really believes in oil above all, not all of the above. That is for sure.

Chris Wright, with his radical, anti-capitalist attack upon the clean energy future of the United States is absolutely destroying our ability to be able to compete with China in the clean energy sector for the rest of eternity. He is just deciding to completely and totally eviscerate our future, and he does so at the behest of Donald Trump, who is tied to, of course, the oil and gas and coal industry and their profit-making opportunities.

Now, again, Chris Wright, that is where he made his money—oil and gas; so it is kind of natural for him to be a

radical, a radical oil and gas guy who wants to destroy wind, destroy solar, destroy new battery storage technologies. These are the technologies that compete against oil, gas, and coal and their profits. By the way, they would substitute technologies which would not pollute, not cause asthma, not warm the planet dangerously that would cause the storms and the fires and the floods, which we have been seeing. It would accomplish all that. But a radical—a radical like Chris Wright as Secretary of Energy—would rather destroy all of it in order to increase the profits of the oil and gas industry. That is what he is doing—creating this absolutely destructive policy that is going to ultimately have the next generation of young people today pay a huge price in the future.

So let's just take a few of these tax credits which they are destroying, which would create good-paying jobs, which would help to spur our economy. Let's just take a look at a few of them to see what he has orchestrated in the House Ways and Means and House Energy and Commerce Committees.

It would remove the tax credits that a local restaurant can use to lower its electricity bill by putting solar panels on the roof of the restaurant: Gone. Incentives that a local connoisseur could have used to buy electric delivery trucks and install charging stations: Gone. EV battery and offshore wind manufacturing factories that source steel from red States: Gone.

And why is he doing it again? He is doing it to help the oil and gas industry from which he came. He is a radical. He sees the world in the rearview mirror. Let's just stay in the oil and gas era. Let's stay in the coal era. Let's not move to a new innovation economy. Let's not move to a clean energy economy. Let's just stay back in the past. We will let China have the future. We will let Germany have the future. We will let India have the future. But we own the past, says Chris Wright. We own the energy past, and we are going to protect it against any innovation in America that would, in any way, inhibit the ability of the past to continue to reap profits from America.

By the way, one of the things which he killed is my offshore wind-manufacturing bill, which was going to give incentives to companies in the United States to manufacture the offshore wind technologies to be deployed. He killed that. That was going to keep the jobs here. That was going to incentivize American companies to innovate in the manufacture of offshore wind technologies. He wants to kill that because he wants to kill the offshore wind industry.

Why does he want to kill the offshore wind industry? What is Chris Wright's thinking? Here is what he is thinking, and here is what Donald Trump is thinking: Ah, the more you deploy offshore wind, the less gas you need to generate electricity. Since that is where he comes from, that is the past,

so he has to protect the past. He is a radical, Chris Wright—just an absolutely rabid radical looking at the rearview mirror at the past; and anything that would interfere with that, including the massive deployment of offshore wind, must be killed. So that is what he has recommended here in the House Ways and Means and the House Energy and Commerce Committees bill.

But that is not all. That is not all that Chris Wright is engaging in, that Republicans are engaging in, that Donald Trump is engaging in.

They are also cutting billions in historic investments from the Inflation Reduction Act, in environmental justice, in air pollution reduction programs. Even in schools—even where kids are exposed to the pollution—they are removing any of the protections against kids breathing in this dangerous asthma-inducing air that has been polluted by oil and gas and coal. That includes \$20 billion in the climate bank, the green bank, which CHRIS VAN HOLLEN and I secured in the Inflation Reduction Act. Also, it is called the Inflation Reduction Act because Joe Manchin, who voted for it, did not want it to be called the biggest climate bill or the biggest clean energy bill in the history of the world. OK? But that is what it is. It is the biggest clean energy bill in history. What McKinsey has analyzed is that the \$20 billion green bank will unleash \$250 billion worth of private sector investment in clean energy technologies.

Well, if you are Chris Wright, you have to kill that. You can't allow for a massive revolution in clean energy to come out of the green energy bank. So Chris Wright—Mr. Radical, Reactionary, “Look at the World in the Rearview Mirror” Secretary of Energy—has killed that too—at Donald Trump's behest, by the way. At Donald Trump's behest.

Again, he looks like a very nice man, but that is not what the job of the Secretary of Energy requires. It requires vision. It requires looking ahead, leading the way, having America be competitive with the Chinese in new technology. We are in a big battle with China over trade. Well, we won't have anything to send to them in clean energy. It is going to be a one-way street—a one-way street coming from them to us—after they finish off our clean energy industry, which is what they are trying to do. In the same way, they have made massive cuts to the National Institutes of Health. Research in Alzheimer's and cancer and diabetes and other diseases is going to finish off our ability to be competitive in biotech. This is the next step: Let's finish off the clean energy industry as well.

Unfortunately, the investments in the clean energy technologies would have created jobs by the millions. They would have strengthened our energy independence because all of that energy, by definition, is produced here in

the United States of America. It is our Sun; it is our wind; it would be our batteries that we could store that electricity with. We don't need the Chinese. We don't need anybody else. We could just do it right here. What could be more conducive to being able to have a headline of energy independence than capturing all of these God-given gifts which we have in our country, destroyed across the board? And they are going to be killing the funding that would save consumers money at the pump by increasing the fuel economy standards of the vehicles which we drive in our country.

The one thing the oil industry hates—I just talked about the natural gas industry. They hate wind and solar and batteries—you know, generating new electricity. What does the oil industry hate? Well, the oil industry hates vehicles that are twice as energy efficient as oil vehicles. Instead of 27 miles a gallon, they get 54 miles a gallon. Instead of 54 miles a gallon, they get 108 miles a gallon, or if it is a plug-in all-electric or a plug-in hybrid, it is pretty much an infinity sign that is next to how efficient that vehicle is and how little oil they need. That is a death star for the oil industry, so they have got to kill the fuel economy standards that make all of the vehicles which we drive more efficient because it is just going to protect the past, which is what Donald Trump is all about. This is some kind of nostalgia he has for 1958, OK? He wants to go back in time, but America can't afford to be looking in the rearview mirror because our European, our Asian, and our South American competitors, they are coming for us.

We are only 5 percent of the world's population, and up until the Trump administration, what has given us our edge is innovation; it is investment in research; it is looking ahead; and it is trying to lead the way. That is where young people in our country want to go, but instead of the dawn of a clean energy future, Republicans are sunseting incentives that would spur a clean domestic manufacturing for industries inside of the United States.

By the way, let me say it again: In just a very brief period of time—about 3 years since the passage of the biggest climate bill in history—we have created 400,000 new jobs in the clean energy sector in the United States and have already unleashed \$400 billion worth of energy investment. So they are committed—the Republicans, and they are proud of it, led by Chris Wright, an oil and gas man—to being the world's laggard, not leader, and to just falling behind everybody in the clean energy sector. That is what their plan is—to destroy everything that has been unleashed in our Nation. We not only won't be the leader in the global economy or the clean energy economy; we are just going to cede the jobs; we are going to cede the progress to our economic rivals, led by the Chinese.

And who is making this worse? Again, it is Energy Secretary Chris

Wright, the fracker in chief. He is a fracker. He really believes in fracking for oil, in fracking for gas. He is a man who, just last week, told the Congress that his Agency had paid all its bills, canceled no clean energy grants, laid off barely a handful of staff, and wasn't freezing funding. Every one of those statements is false.

Now he is doubling down with a thoughtless regulatory bonfire, and this deregulatory blitz eliminates standards for everyday appliances in our homes—microwaves, refrigerators, dishwashers, and washing machines.

All the regulations say is make all those devices more energy efficient so you don't have to burn coal in order to have the washing machine work, in order to have the refrigerator work. We are not asking anyone to put a mission to Mars in place. We are not asking for anyone to be a rocket scientist. We are asking for people to make dishwashers more efficient and washing machines more efficient.

Do you know what Chris Wright says? Impossible. Impossible. We can't figure out how to do that, so we are just going to stop all progress that we are making in ensuring that all these electricity-consuming appliances are more efficient.

The less efficient they are, the bigger the electricity bill for every single American. That is their goal. What happens when you have to consume more electricity? You have to pay the natural gas industry for all the extra electricity which is coming into your home. That is the plan.

The oil industry wants automobiles and trucks to be less efficient. The natural gas industry wants all appliances, homes, everything less efficient and not to use wind and solar and battery storage technology. They each have two simple business plans, which Chris Wright, who is one of the most radical people who has ever had a position in the American Government, wants to put in place—the fracker-in-chief.

I am the author of the law that the Department of Energy uses to set the standards for dishwashers and for refrigeration in our country. I put that law on the books in 1987. So far, it has saved the need for somewhere around 200 coal-burning plants to ever be built in the first place because those devices never needed the electricity that otherwise would have been needed if there was less efficiency.

The bill itself, according to experts, has now saved \$2 trillion in energy bills since 1987. Can I say that again? I am very proud of this. My bill has helped to save \$2 trillion that consumers otherwise would have had to have paid in their electricity bills to have inefficient refrigeration, inefficient dishwashers in the house, inefficient air-conditioning in the house. Two trillion dollars has been saved.

It has also prevented 3 billion metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions from going up. That is a law. Greenhouse gas emissions never went up because we

made those appliances so much more energy efficient. And it then saved consumers \$500 a year because they never had to pay those electricity bills.

So you would think the Secretary of Energy would say: Let's keep moving forward. Let's keep making all of these devices more and more efficient.

But no. He works in natural gas, he works in oil, so his goal is to roll it all back because it harms the business model of the natural gas industry or the oil industry.

Here is the thing: I personally believe in Darwinian paranoia-inducing competition. That is what I believe. I am a capitalist. Let's just have everybody be able to do everything. That is not the socialistic attitude that Chris Wright has. He wants to use socialism to protect the oil and gas industry from real competition.

Is he going to take the tax breaks for the oil and gas industry off the books? Oh, no, he is not taking those tax breaks off the books. Is he going to take off favorable regulatory protections for the oil and gas industry? He is not going to do that. No. No. No.

This is all the old boys' network, the billionaire boys' club network in the energy industry to thwart the movement that young people want toward a future of clean energy, of solar and wind, the all-electric vehicle—the future for our country.

So Chris Wright and Trump want to throw everything out because nothing says "freedom" more than smog and higher utility bills. They want us to have the freedom to have more smog. They want us to have the freedom to have more asthma. They want us as a nation to have the freedom to pay higher utility bills for natural gas and generated electricity. That is his idea of freedom—Chris Wright. Again, it just goes back to the bottom line of those companies that he used to run before he just became Secretary of Energy.

Now, I don't mind him saying that he wants to have a new future for our country, but you can't say it simultaneously when you are killing the future.

You are killing it, Chris Wright. You are the worst example of what the Trump administration is bringing to Washington. You are going to make us more dependent on fossil fuels. Consumers will have to pay higher prices. It is going to lead to higher levels of disease in our Nation. We are going to see more storms like Hurricanes Milton and Helene last year, which caused \$300 billion worth of damage. We are going to see more fires like those which we saw in L.A., which caused \$140 billion worth of damage. Those are just three storms that caused \$440 billion worth of damage, those three storms alone.

So you just say: Hey, Chris, Mr. Secretary, what is your answer to that?

Do you know what his answer is? More fossil fuels. Warm up the planet even more. Turn it up a few more de-

grees. The temperature is too low; let's put the temperature up higher.

What are young people saying? They are saying: Turn the thermostat down. This planet is getting too warm. Just turn it down.

That is renewables. That is the way in which you do it.

We have seen Chris Wright make outlandishly false claims before. Back in March, Chris Wright took the stage in front of oil and gas executives and delivered what might go down as the most egregious fossil-fueled fiction ever spoken at a podium—and that is still saying a lot. It was part sermon, part standup, and part 100 percent spin.

Chris Wright said:

The previous administration's policy was focused myopically on climate change with people as simply collateral damage.

That is his statement.

The Inflation Reduction Act, on the other hand, did create 400,000 clean energy jobs. It unleashed \$400 billion worth of investments. That is not collateral damage. That is a climate comeback. That is a middle-class revival in our country. That is 400,000 middle-class jobs in our Nation that the Inflation Reduction Act—also known as the biggest climate bill in our history—has produced. They are committed to stopping it. That is what Republicans are willing to tank with their latest proposal.

Now I am going to give you the killer stats. This is why they have to kill it. Last year in the United States, 94 percent of all new electricity generation capacity installed was wind and solar and batteries. So the natural gas industry is saying: That can't happen. You mean we were left with 6 percent?

Yes, that is right. This thing is moving—wind, solar, and battery storage—for electricity generation in our country. If you do it every year for the next 10 years or the next 25 years, then the natural gas industry just won't be able to compete in the marketplace.

So Adam Smith is spinning in his grave, looking at what Chris Wright is doing today—tampering with the free market, tampering with incentives for the competition to oil and gas, which have received tax breaks for 100 years.

Adam Smith is spinning in his grave, thinking how capitalism is being completely distorted, although he wrote a whole chapter in "Wealth of Nations," and the chapter was just about how much he hated monopolies, how much he hated oligopolies, which are anathema when it comes to competition, when it comes to capitalism. He really wanted Darwinian paranoia-inducing competition—Adam Smith. That is not what Chris Wright wants. That is not what Donald Trump wants. Donald Trump wants to be able to put his thumb on the scale for the oil and gas industry and for the coal industry just to destroy the future competition.

Meanwhile, the Trump administration has already cost America more than 50,000 clean energy jobs and over \$8 billion in private sector clean energy

projects. If anything is collateral damage, it is our economy under Donald Trump and the Chris Wright chaos agenda in the marketplace for the clean energy industry.

Here is what Chris Wright also said:

Natural gas . . . has been the fastest growing source of energy over the last 15 years. Wind and solar supply roughly 3 percent of global primary energy.

Chris Wright must have brought a calculator from 2005 because those numbers are just completely wrong. In reality, wind and solar are the fastest growing electricity sources in history. In 2024, as I have already said, they made up over 90 percent of all new electricity generation in the United States.

Listen to this—this is scary for the oil and gas industry—96 percent of all new electricity generation installed worldwide last year was wind and solar and battery—96 percent globally, wind and solar.

He is saying: Oh, it is just such a small part.

No, it is not, and it is going to grow and grow and grow and grow. That is what is putting the fear into the hearts of the oil and gas industry. They have got to stop it, so they have ordered the House Republicans to kill it in the Ways and Means Committee, kill it in the Energy and Commerce Committee, and then they want to send it over here so that Republicans can rubberstamp this decision to kill the future. I guess that is inaccurate. It is not the future; it is right now. It is over 90 percent of the United States and 96 percent globally, last year, the installation of new electricity generation capacity.

So they are desperate, totally desperate. They wish they had killed the Affordable Care Act 10 years ago because now they don't have the nerve to try to kill the Affordable Care Act because now people already are benefiting from those changes. They are trying to kill this, kill it right now, kill it before it gets more momentum and destroys the business model of 100 years of the oil, gas, and coal industry.

By the way, in the United States alone, we added 50 gigawatts of new solar in 2024. Think of it like this: In 2009, we only had 2,000 megawatts of solar from the beginning of time until 2009. Last year, 50,000 new gigawatts of solar was installed in our country. If it was 50,000 next year and the year after and the year after, when 10 years is done, you will have a half a million new gigawatts of solar.

So the oil and gas industry is listening to Donald Trump, who said: If you raise \$1 billion for me—he said this last April in the middle of his campaign—I will kill the clean energy revolution. I will kill it.

So this is just pay to play.

Here is an industry that is growing, creating new jobs hand-over-fist, just growing at a faster rate than the economy itself—growing way faster than the economy itself—and what we now see are the fossil fuel apologists saying that new solar just doesn't work when,

in fact, new solar is now cheaper than simply operating an existing coal plant. Offshore wind is half the cost of building a new gas plant. That is what offshore wind amounts to—half the price.

They have to kill it. It is too efficient. It is too clean. It doesn't pollute. It doesn't cause asthma. They have to kill it now, says Chris Wright, says the oil and gas industry.

Chris Wright also said:

Wind has been singled out because it's had a singularly poor record of driving up prices and increasing citizen outrage.

That is just not true. In fact, the States with the most wind and solar—Iowa, South Dakota, Texas—also have lower electricity rates than other parts of the country.

Clean energy isn't just clean; it is cheap. If Republicans really cared about communities, they would stop exporting our liquefied natural gas, which drives up prices at home. So let's stop these fossil fuel companies from gouging families with price spikes and pretending that pollution is patriotism.

The administration has made its tradeoff clear: your future for their profit. That is Trump's "art of the deal." They get to be rich, and young people don't have a future when it comes to clean energy or protecting against climate change. That is the "art of the deal." It is an intergenerational deal. The older generation gets all the money, and the next generations take all the risk. That is his deal, and he is expecting everyone to respond like a candidate on "The Apprentice."

Well, they are not going to. Young people are going to rise up. The word is going to get out. This is very dangerous, what he is doing.

The Trump administration—

said Chris Wright—

will end the Biden administration's irrational, quasi-religious policies on climate change that imposed endless sacrifices on our citizens.

That is Chris Wright. This is kind of radical, irrational, nonfact-based but, ultimately, Trumpian-at-its-soul policies that Chris Wright has to defend. Now, you would hope that he knows better, but I think it is different. I think that what Chris Wright has is a remarkable ability to harness voluminous amounts of information to defend a knowingly erroneous premise, and that erroneous premise is that wind and solar and batteries aren't working right now. So he has to just tell lies about it, plain and simple. Lie, lie, lie.

And I get it. This is a religious war, pitting economic stimulus policies that drove investment in the free market against their religion of pure Trumpism; pitting corporate profits against breathable air, drinkable water, and a habitable planet.

Do you place your alms at the foot of an effigy for Harold Hamm? Well, Republicans do. He is the biggest natural gas guy in the country, and he said he

would raise the money for Donald Trump.

Here is the real gospel. Clean energy is not polarizing; it is popular in the polls. Not only do people like it, 70 percent of registered voters support the biggest climate bill in history, with over 70 percent of registered voters saying the United States needs to use more renewable energy than it does today. That is not religion; that is stimulus in solar panels. And again, it is the public saying: Move to the future, move away from oil and gas.

If we want to talk about sacrifice, it is our communities that are sacrificing their lungs to pollution, their homes to floods, their paychecks to fossil fuel price spikes, all for the religion of climate denialism.

I think all these guys, they must have gotten their climate degree from Trump University—I think, Chris Wright and all of them inside of his administration—because it is just the opposite of what is happening out there. The planet is dangerously warming.

We have got a response that is massively capturing a private sector investment all across our country to deploy the renewable energy resources that reduce greenhouse gases. Yet—again, I am going to come back to Chris Wright—he claims:

The previous administration's climate policies have been impoverishing to our citizens, economically destructive to our businesses and politically polarizing.

The cure—

This is Chris Wright—

was far more destructive than the disease. There are no winners in that world except for politicians and rapidly growing interest groups.

Is he talking about the 450,000 asthma deaths every year worldwide? Let me say that again. Is he talking about the 450,000 people who die from asthma every year globally or the billions in extreme weather and climate change-related damage every year? That disease sounds pretty damaging.

The cure? Well, regulations that this administration is going to try to roll back right now. They are going to try to roll back the protections that are now in place to reduce dramatically the number of people who die from asthma. And the rest of the world, of course, is also deploying the cure—the renewable energy technologies.

So is there too little mercury up in the air? Are there too few air toxics up in the air right now, so that Chris Wright says we need more of them? We need more of them in the lungs of young people? We need more of them in the lungs of young mothers, pregnant women across our country and across the planet?

I don't hear anyone calling for more mercury, more toxics in the air. And if the regulations stayed in place, it would save 11,000 deaths every year.

And speaking of interest groups, let us not pretend this administration is for the people. The only group Trump has ever prioritized is the fossil fuel elite.

So now we come back to Chris Wright again, who is bringing that same attitude toward governing. And he just doesn't get the attention he deserves for the malevolent way in which he is trying to destroy the clean energy future of our country. Today's energy regulatory rollback—today—is a kamikaze mission against clean energy, against efficiency, against accountability. And the Republicans are more than happy to sign our planet's death sentence. That is what they are doing. That is what their plan is this year on the floor of the Senate and in the rollback of all the regulations that have been promulgated over the years at the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency—a death sentence for the planet.

We are talking about rescinding energy and water conservation standards for dozens of products that most Americans have in their homes—microwaves, faucets—that save billions of dollars and billions of gallons of water annually.

And what are we going to get instead? What is Chris Wright promising? What is Donald Trump promising us? A rule book written by and for fossil fuel companies. That is what we are going to have—fossil fuel profiteers. No science. No data. Just the same old special interests pushing the same old lies.

So when Chris Wright and Republicans say they want to cut redtape, what he really means is cut clean air, cut consumer savings, cut climate future, cut clean water, cut safe lands. Cut, cut, cut.

So let's call this what it is: the Trump deregulation doctrine. If it saves money, repeal it. If it protects public health, gut it. If it curbs emissions, cancel it. And if it benefits the American people, sabotage it. This isn't a regulatory review; it is a regulatory revenge tour. And it is not just about energy efficiency; it is about justice—because it is frontline communities, the poorest communities, Black and Brown communities, poor communities already overburdened by asthma, heat, and energy insecurity who are going to pay a disproportionate price because of what Trump is doing, because of what Chris Wright is doing.

It is almost unconscionable what Chris Wright is attempting to perpetrate upon the poorest, the most vulnerable in our society, but he is doing it all because they are not rich enough—the oil barons, the natural gas barons, the coal barons. They are not rich enough. We have to have more people die. We have to have more people get sick.

Madam American, Mr. American, the American people deserve better than this. They deserve an Energy Secretary who believes in science, who tells the truth, who doesn't measure progress in barrels sold or rules repealed.

We should be investing in the future, not dismantling the future. We should be building cleaner, safer, and more af-

fordable systems, not resurrecting pollution in the name of profit.

So to Chris Wright and Donald Trump, I say: We will fight you in the courts. We will fight you in the States. We will fight you on the floor of this Chamber—because every rule you tear down, we are going to rebuild stronger. Every lie you tell, we are going to counter with the truth. And every time you try to sell out the American people to pad a corporate balance sheet so that the rich become even richer, we will be back there to push against you, to protect the American public, to attempt to protect those who are most vulnerable in our society.

So you are not going to back down; we are not going to back down. This is a fight for the future. This is a fight for the planet. They are trying to write the death certificate of the planet right now, and we are not going to let them get away with it. They are in for a historic resistance coming up from the streets of our country because this is too important just to be another source of revenue for the tax breaks for the already too rich in our society.

Let me just finish with this. The three richest guys in America who sat behind Donald Trump at the inauguration, they control more wealth than the bottom 50 percent of our population combined. Do they really need more? Do oil and gas barons really need more? Does it have to come at the expense of all the young people in our country? Does it have to come at the expense of the health of everyone in our Nation? Aren't we better than this? Aren't we really the innovation country?

So that would be my message: You are in for a fight. It is a fight for the future against those who want to pull us back toward a past which ultimately has created the issues, the problems, the risks that we are confronted with today.

So with that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

(Mr. MORENO assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. SCHMITT assumed the Chair.)

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Rubinstein nomination be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we proceed immediately to the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON CROWLEY NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Crowley nomination?

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 242 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Banks	Grassley	Mullin
Barrasso	Hagerty	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Boozman	Hoeben	Ricketts
Britt	Husted	Risch
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Justice	Scott (FL)
Collins	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Lankford	Sheehy
Cotton	Lee	Sullivan
Cramer	Lummis	Thune
Crapo	Marshall	Tillis
Cruz	McConnell	Tuberville
Curtis	McCormick	Wicker
Daines	Moody	Young
Ernst	Moran	
Fischer	Moreno	

NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Luján	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murray	Warnock
Fetterman	Ossoff	Warren
Gallego	Padilla	Welch
Hassan	Peters	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Reed	Wyden

NOT VOTING—3

Gillibrand	Graham	Murphy
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action on the Crowley nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session following the cloture vote on the Rubinstein nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.