



Energy

What’s ahead for Energy: Key Policy Issues

The 2025 Trump energy agenda stands to include aggressive deregulation of environmental protections and a shift from global partnerships like the Paris Agreement and a domestic climate-focused energy transition towards energy independence utilizing more of America’s natural resources. This will likely include restarting liquefied natural gas (LNG) exportation, expanding oil and gas exploration on federal lands, and incentivizing major oil and gas companies to enhance production. Permitting reform and redacting emissions protections on factories and manufacturing will also be prominent issues.

Key Leadership in Congress and the Trump Administration

119th Congress

With Republican control of Congress, Reps. Brett Guthrie (R-KY) and Bob Latta (R-OH) are vying to be chair of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. Control of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works will shift to the Republican majority, with Sen. Shelley Capito (R-WV) taking the chair’s gavel.

Trump Administration

President-elect Donald Trump’s nominee for Secretary of Energy is Chris Wright, CEO of Liberty Energy, a major oil and gas company based in Colorado. Wright is an outspoken climate skeptic who believes in the “unleashing of vast natural resources to deliver a future in which no one would struggle with utility bills.” Trump has selected former Rep. Lee Zeldin (R-NY) for Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administrator, where he is poised to fight environmental advocacy efforts, push for deregulation and halt environmental protection efforts.

The Trump Administration’s Priorities

During the campaign, Trump said that there is “more liquid gold under our feet than any other country.” To that end, energy policy will likely shift to support more oil and gas production, while moving away from climate-related measures that Trump has argued restrict energy development and increase costs. Trump will most likely retract the remaining funding from the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) for solar and wind projects, impacting one of President Biden’s signature legislative accomplishments. Trump will potentially restart approval for certain fossil fuel projects such as the Keystone XL Pipeline, shut down the EPA’s Clean Power Plan, reduce the number of federal auto emissions standards and eliminate the tax credit for electric vehicles.

Spotlight: Energy & Tax

In 2025, companies stand to see new tax incentives to pursue more gas production, nuclear energy and mining, as well as fewer taxes on companies that onshore their business operations. Tax incentives related to environmental justice or holding polluters accountable may be eliminated. Repeal of the IRA tax credits could also serve as a “pay for” as the administration and congressional Republicans look to maintain the lower corporate tax rate.

