



March 11, 2025

The Honorable Chris Wright
Secretary, Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Wright,

The Battery Materials & Technology Coalition (BMTC) congratulates you on your confirmation as Secretary to the Department of Energy (DOE). We applaud your focus on energy and infrastructure development that will help deliver cost reductions, safety, security, and economic growth for the American people. We look forward to working with you on driving these actions to fruition in the coming months and years.

BMTC is a coalition of companies across the United States and Canada dedicated to scaling a supply chain that is vital to America's national and economic security. BMTC's members are proud to produce and recycle critical materials, develop innovative technologies, and manufacture battery components essential to the economy, including those needed for defense systems, energy storage systems, data centers, industrial applications, transportation, and more.

Through the Executive Orders on Day 1, President Trump has showcased action to unleash America's energy resources and usher in an age of American energy dominance. Boosting American energy production could not be timelier, as electricity demand continues to skyrocket, driven by the boom in AI data centers. This increased power demand will present new challenges for America's aging electric grid; challenges which battery technology can help alleviate. Energy storage systems (ESS) that rely on battery technology provide essential dispatchable power to ensure grid balance and resilience, which can help keep the lights on for critical infrastructure even during grid-stressing events. In addition, ESS provides reserve power and dynamic resource allocation for data centers – a necessity if the U.S. intends to be a global leader in AI.

Given the clear economic and national security interests at stake, it is crucial that the United States establish strong critical material supply chains for battery technologies to reduce our dependence on adversarial nations, such as China. Deploying critical minerals and battery technologies at scale requires strong industrial policy and programs between the private sector and government to meet our needs as a nation.

BMTC member companies look forward to continuing this important industrial partnership with you and your staff to help supercharge the industry and ensure we continue to innovate, build, and lead this sector globally. This includes important work on implementation of grants, loans, and tax

credits, alleviating permitting delays, and executing and enforcing policies that boost our competitiveness and keep our adversaries at bay.

Over the past few decades, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has implemented a conscious and coordinated strategy to flood global markets with artificially cheap critical materials to smother foreign competition. To counter the CCP, BMTC members are strongly supportive of protective policies, such as implementing domestic content requirements and Foreign Entity of Concern (FEOC) provisions for government funding and incentives that shift the market away from China and signal that the U.S. is investing for the long term.

Thank you in advance for considering our industry priorities related to securing energy dominance and the supply chains that enable our energy, defense, and industrial sectors. We look forward to working with you, your staff, and all of DOE to bolster domestic critical materials and battery supply chains.

Sincerely,

Ben Steinberg
Spokesperson
The Battery Materials and Technology Coalition (BMTC)