



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON **SCIENCE, SPACE, & TECHNOLOGY**

Opening Statement

Ranking Member Jamaal Bowman (D-NY)
of the Subcommittee on Energy

Joint Subcommittee Hearing:
Subcommittee on Energy
Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight

*Return on Unprecedented Investment: An Analysis of the Department of Energy's
Implementation of the IJJA, the IRA, and the CHIPS and Science Act*

May 10, 2023

I thank Chairman Williams and Chairman Obernolte for convening this hearing, on a subject that is of crucial importance for the future of our country and planet. Dr. Richmond and Dr. Hogan, thank you for joining us to discuss the Department of Energy's implementation of the landmark climate and energy bills that we advanced in the last Congress: the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the CHIPS and Science Act.

My colleagues know that I am passionate about harnessing the full brilliance of this country, and all of its people, to solve the climate crisis. Since I arrived in Congress, in almost every hearing, Members on both sides of this Committee have talked about the importance of strong research and development to tackle the problems of the 21st century. And with the laws we passed last Congress, we are actually starting to make good on those words. There is much more to do, but we needed a breakthrough at the federal level, and we got one.

In my home state of New York alone, these new laws are rapidly expanding electric vehicle infrastructure, including clean school buses; they are providing investments for safer homes, schools, and communities, protecting them from extreme weather; and they are helping retrofit the state's buildings to efficiently run on solar, heat pumps, and battery storage. The Inflation Reduction Act's opportunities are already enabling innovation in the public sector, influencing my state's decision to allow the New York Power Authority to build, own, and operate clean energy projects in the public interest. And the efforts of this Committee have resulted in New York's Brookhaven National Laboratory receiving close to \$200 million to advance world-leading physics and provide state-of-the-art equipment to nanoscience centers across five national labs. These historic investments are also attracting billions in private sector support for quantum computing and the semiconductor ecosystem and battery manufacturing, just in my state alone. While there are big challenges involved in making sure the benefits of these investments flow to all communities, including historically marginalized areas like those in my district, we are working hard across agencies, branches, and governments to make it happen. This is the real deal.

I cannot overstate the significance of this trio of laws. And we would be remiss not to include a fourth: the Energy Act of 2020. The Energy Act is a significant bipartisan product of the Science

Committee, and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funds many of the provisions authorized in this bill. The CHIPS and Science Act is also a bipartisan product of many years of work from past and present Science Committee Members and staff. And the provisions from the Inflation Reduction Act under this Committee's jurisdiction largely originated right here. We have a lot to be proud of.

Dr. Richmond and Dr. Hogan: We are working with communities in our districts to maximize the benefits of these laws, and to demonstrate their full impact to the country and world. At this hearing, we put on our oversight hats to discuss what we can do to support your efforts to implement these laws. We understand that historic and unprecedented mandates have been established. We know there will be growing pains. But it has been past time to act, and we won't be slowing down any time soon. We must continue to aggressively address the climate crisis, and I look forward to working with both of you this Congress to help lead our country into our clean energy future. I also want to take a moment to thank you both for the FY24 budget request for the Department. It is promising to see that this Administration is bullish on critical investments in protecting the planet and ensuring a brighter future for us all.

I look forward to this discussion, and I yield back.