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Peter N. Goettler
President and CEO

April 24, 2025

Secretary Chris Wright
United States Secretary of the Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Wright:

I would be honored to have you join us as our guest at a gala dinner on Thursday, May 1, 2025, when the Cato Institute will award the 2025 Milton Friedman Prize for Advancing Liberty.

The prize is presented every other year to an individual or organization that has made a significant contribution toward the advancement of human freedom. In 2001, the late Nobel laureate Milton Friedman agreed to lend his name to the prize, which has become the leading international award for acknowledging contributions to the promotion of individual liberty.

Since 2002, recipients of the prize have included individuals and groups who have risked their very lives in the struggle for freedom, including Jimmy Lai, a leading figure in the Hong Kong democracy movement; the Innocence Project, a criminal justice reform nonprofit; Las Damas de Blanco (Ladies in White), a Cuban dissident group; Flemming Rose, a Danish journalist and free speech advocate; Mao Yushi, a Chinese economist; Akbar Ganji, an Iranian writer and journalist; and Yon Goicoechea, a Venezuelan pro-democracy student leader.

The Cato Institute is proud to announce that Charles Koch, businessman, philanthropist, and longtime advocate for individual liberty and free markets, has been awarded the 2025 Milton Friedman Prize for Advancing Liberty. Charles has long championed principles of human progress that characterize a free and open society, one of equal rights and mutual benefit in which people are empowered to innovate, succeed, and realize their potential by creating value for others. In recognition of his extraordinary efforts to advance human flourishing, in both business and social change, the Cato Institute is proud to present him with this honor.

The gala will take place from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on May 1, 2025, at the Washington Hilton on 1919 Connecticut Ave NW. Should you accept our invitation, we would be happy to extend a second complimentary ticket to a guest of your choosing. To accept our invitation, your staff may contact Alana Entinger at aentinger@cato.org. For more information on the prize, the dinner, and this year's recipient, please visit cato.org/friedman-prize-2025. I hope you will join us.

Sincerely,