

**To:** Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**From:** POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard  
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**Subject:** Yergin supports ending Trump policy advisory forum

By Ben Lefebvre

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Daniel Yergin, an energy expert who sat on President Donald Trump's Strategic and Policy Forum, "fully supports" the forum's decision to disband, his spokesman told POLITICO.

"As our members have expressed individually over the past several days, intolerance, racism and violence have absolutely no place in this country and are an affront to core American values," forum members said in a prepared statement. "We believe the debate over forum participation has become a distraction from our well-intentioned and sincere desire to aid vital policy discussions on how to improve the lives of everyday Americans. As such, the president and we are disbanding the forum."

Yergin, vice chairman of consulting agency IHS Markit, advises many of the country's largest energy companies and helps organize the industry's largest annual conference. He sat on the White House forum with the heads of General Motors, JPMorgan Chase and other major companies. An IHS spokesman said he supported the forum's decision to disband.

A steady stream of CEOs and other executives had left the forum and a separate White House manufacturing council in recent days to protest Trump's claim that both sides were responsible for violence at a white supremacist march in Charlottesville, Va., last weekend that left three people dead.

As the defections mounted today, Trump said he was disbanding both groups of business advisers.

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