

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Morning Media
Sent: Wed 8/23/2017 10:22:00 AM
Subject: Morning Media: Trump attacks the media (again) -- 28 million watch Afghanistan speech -- Breitbart gets pranked

By Alex Weprin | 08/23/2017 06:20 AM EDT

With Cristiano Lima

STOP ME IF YOU'VE HEARD THIS ONE BEFORE: President Donald Trump used his rally in Phoenix, Arizona, last night to rail against the "dishonest media." He busted out a few old classics, taking on the "failing New York Times," the "Amazon Washington Post" and CNN, to which the crowd responded by chanting "CNN sucks!" He defended "Poor Jeffrey" Lord, who CNN released as a contributor after he tweeted "siege heil" at someone on Twitter. He also criticized ABC News anchor George Stephanopoulos, who he belittled as "little George Stephanopoulos," for an interview he conducted with U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley yesterday morning.

-Trump's roughly 20 minute off-prompter media rant -- which was carried live on the cable news channels -- was inspired by the media coverage of his Charlottesville presser last week.

-"It's time to expose the crooked media deceptions," he told the crowd at one point, adding that the media was "trying to take away our history and our heritage," and that journalists were "sick people" who "don't like our country."

-He said The New York Times apologized to him after the election (it did not) and said "CNN does not want its falling viewership to watch what I'm saying tonight" (CNN carried the comments live). At one point he said that the red lights on the cameras were turning off, suggesting that coverage of his speech was being dropped, though the TV coverage continued uninterrupted. MSNBC, at a few points during his comments, broke into his speech to correct things he said to the crowd. "This is the president lying about the media," Lawrence O'Donnell said at one point.

-Trump did, however, heap praise on Fox News, telling the crowd "I must tell you, Fox has treated me fairly," before praising individual programs. "Hannity, how good is Hannity? And he's a great guy. He's an honest guy," he said, before adding that "Fox & Friends" "is a great show, the most honest show."

-After the rally was over, the cable news punditry began. "What we have witnessed was a total eclipse of the facts. Someone who came out on stage and lied directly to the American people," said CNN anchor Don Lemon. "We saw this during the campaign, it got to the point where it got so far as to almost becoming dangerous," said Fox News White House correspondent John Roberts, speaking about Trump's comments on the media. "I think as a responsible leader he shouldn't go so far as he did, and he did go too far tonight."

Good morning and welcome back to Morning Media. I want to make Morning Media better

and more useful to you, so please send me tips, ideas and feedback! I'm on Twitter [@alexweprin](#) and on email at alexweprin@gmail.com. Morning Media is produced with help from **Cristiano Lima** (clima@politico.com / [@ludacristiano](#)). [Archives](#) . [Subscribe](#).

28 MILLION PEOPLE: That is how many, on average, watched President Trump's address to the nation about Afghanistan Monday night on TV, according to ratings data from Nielsen. That figure does not include channels like C-SPAN, which is not rated by Nielsen, nor does it count anyone who may have streamed the speech online. All told, the speech drew millions fewer viewers than President Obama's address to the nation on Afghanistan, which he also made in his first year in office. That speech, from December 2009, averaged 40.8 million viewers.

-Breaking things down even further: ABC was tops among the broadcast networks, averaging just over 5 million viewers, while Fox News led among cable channels, averaging 4.7 million viewers. As TV scribe Joe Adalian [noted on Twitter](#), however, MSNBC was the only channel to see its ratings go up after the speech ended, with an abbreviated edition of Rachel Maddow averaging 3.1 million viewers, up from 2.9 for the speech.

-CNN's Brian Stelter makes a good point [here](#). Are the relatively modest ratings about President Trump? Or are they about America's view on Afghanistan? "The relatively low ratings may, to some degree, reflect the country's pessimism about the war effort."

-Smart story from Bloomberg's Gerry Smith [here](#). The broadcast news divisions are seeing viewership shift to cable news. People want more political coverage., and the broadcast news shows just aren't fitting the bill as well as cable is at the moment.

-I didn't forget about the eclipse, by the way. Among cable news channels, Fox News averaged 2.1 million viewers, CNN 1.7 million and MSNBC 1.2 million. The broadcast ratings won't come in until today, but overnight numbers suggest ABC led the pack. Here's my question: who are these millions of people that watched the eclipse on TV? It is one of the few news events almost everyone could experience themselves, just by going outside and looking up, hopefully with protective eyewear.

BREITBART GOT PRANKED: A self-described "email prankster" pretending to be Breitbart executive chairman Steve Bannon pulled a fast one on staff at the media outlet. In the process, he fooled reporters into promising to do the faux-Bannon's "dirty work" against White House aides, including first daughter Ivanka Trump and her husband, senior White House adviser Jared Kushner. In one thread, Breitbart EIC Alex Marlow went as far as to suggest they could get Ivanka Trump and Kushner ousted from the administration "by end of the year." The email exchanges, which was [leaked to CNN by the prankster](#), is the latest sign that Breitbart will look to target former opponents of Bannon in the West Wing now that he is once again atop the explosive populist news site. [Read the juicy details here](#).

THE VILLAGE VOICE ABANDONS PRINT: Tuesday was a sad day for New York media and alt-weekly fans. The Village Voice is ending its free weekly print edition, which has been distributed across the New York area since 1996. The Voice has published a print edition in some capacity since 1955, first available as a subscription and at newsstands before going free in

1996 in a bid to boost circulation. Going forward, the Voice will "maintain its iconic progressive brand with its digital platform and a variety of new editorial initiatives and a full slate of events that will include The Obie Awards and The Pride Awards," owner Peter Barbey said in announcing the change.

SOUNDBITE: "We collectively made the decision with Robert to switch games as the tragic events in Charlottesville were unfolding, simply because of the coincidence of his name. In that moment it felt right to all parties. It's a shame that this is even a topic of conversation and we regret that who calls play by play for a football game has become an issue." -*A spokesperson for ESPN*, explaining why college football announcer Robert Lee (no relation to the Confederate general) was being moved off of Saturday's game between William & Mary and the University of Virginia.

-If you're curious, Sports Illustrated's Richard Deitsch [has the backstory](#).

REVOLVING DOOR:

-D.C. is losing one of its most veteran reporters, as Fox News chief political correspondent Carl Cameron announced Tuesday that he would be retiring. Cameron, who joined Fox News in 1995, before it officially launched, covered events such as the 2000 election, Hurricane Katrina and the 9-11 attacks. [Axios has more](#), including an excerpt from a note to staff from president of news Jay Wallace. And [here's Bret Baier's tribute](#) to "Campaign Carl."

-Notable changes at NPR: executive editor Edith Chapin will move to a new role overseeing the strategy and execution of our collaborative journalism aspirations and editorial partnerships," according to an email to staff sent by Michael Oreskes, SVP of news and editorial director. Bruce Auster has been promoted to senior director for the Collaborative Journalism Network, while David Sweeney will assume supervision of the newsroom following Chapin's departure.

-HuffPost announced the additions of Tommy Craggs and Luke O'Brien on Tuesday. Craggs, who previously ran Deadspin and Gawker, joins as a senior enterprise editor, and O'Brien joins as a reporter and contributor editor for Highline.

-BuzzFeed News [has hired](#) a new business editor. Jennifer Kingson joins from The New York Times.

-Meanwhile, BuzzFeed News is also shaking up its video department, with head of news video Henry Goldman and senior producer Jessica Naudziunas leaving the company. Going forward, BuzzFeed News "will be moving from having a single, centralized video team to video groups more directly connected with parts of our news operation," editor in chief Ben Smith [told The Hollywood Reporter](#).

-Former NBC "Today" correspondent Jenna Wolfe has joined Fox Sports as the host of morning show "First Things First" on FS1.

JUCY READ OF THE DAY: This is always one of my favorite stories every year: Variety's

list of the highest-paid people in television . For news junkies, you may be interested to know that NBC "Today" anchor Matt Lauer was the highest-paid person in TV news with an estimated \$25 million per year salary. His soon-to-be "Today" colleague Megyn Kelly and ABC "Good Morning America" anchor Robin Roberts were second with \$18 million. George Stephanopoulos earns \$15 million, while CNN's Anderson Cooper earns \$12 million. Jimmy Fallon is the highest-paid late night host earning \$16 million, with Jimmy Kimmel and Stephen Colbert right behind him.

WOMEN RULE NEWSLETTER - POLITICO's Women Rule series, produced in partnership with founding partners Google and the Tory Burch Foundation, is a journalism series dedicated to exploring women's leadership in politics, policy and their communities. Stay up to speed on what's happening in the Women Rule community with our monthly Women Rule Newsletter. This month's edition features a podcast with Purple Heart recipient and transgender former Navy SEAL, Kristin Beck, a Q&A with Shannon Watts, founder of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, plus job updates from Women Rule community members making strides in their careers. A special thank you to the 2017 Women Rule presenting sponsor Chevron.

Subscribe: [here](#).

EXTRAS:

- Publisher logos will now help users differentiate news outlets on Facebook. [[Facebook](#)]
- Al-Monitor is relaunching its website and expanding its coverage [[Poynter](#)]
- I'm beginning to think Anthony Scaramucci is in on the joke. [[Anthony Scaramucci](#)]
- The Media Rating council is working on a cross-platform tool to track video metrics. [[Axios](#)]
- SNL creator and producer Lorne Michaels now has the record for most Emmy nominations of anyone in history, with 78. [[Indie Wire](#)]
- A look at the top 30 people on Snap Inc.'s upper hierarchy. [[Business Insider](#)]
- Why on the anniversary of Gawker's takedown we still need the site more than ever. [[WaPo](#)]
- A deep dive on Mic's promise of socially-conscious original content -- and its recent pivot away toward video. [[Outline](#)]
- Fox News and other conservative outlets pounced on comments by CNN's Brian Stelter discussing reporters candidly questioning Trump's "mental fitness" to be in office. [[Fox News](#)]

To view online:

<http://www.politico.com/media/tipsheets/morning-media/2017/08/23/trump-attacks-the-media-again-28-million-watch-afghanistan-speech-breitbart-gets-pranked-001338>

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To: Maisano, Frank[frank.maisano@bracewell.com]
From: Maisano, Frank
Sent: Mon 10/2/2017 6:18:44 PM
Subject: Oct 2 PRG Energy Update On Tap: Solar Tariff Remedy Case, Key EPA Nominations, SEJ

Friends,

The news cycle will be totally overrun this week by the terrible shooting in Las Vegas last night and our thoughts and prayers go out to those impacted, as well as our gratitude to those who helped others.

In the sports world this week, baseball playoff kick off tomorrow with the Yankee and Twins, but also some great match ups are already set: (Cubs/Nats & RedSox/Astros). As well, the update's favorite season also launches this week: the NHL hockey season.

Tomorrow, the US International Trade Commission returns to the solar trade case with a public hearing on the remedy phase. We will be in full impact mode. We can help you with a full **array** of resources that will be impacted from utilities to contractors to manufacturers to retailers.

The big event on Capitol Hill this week is Wednesday's Senate Environment nomination hearing for several EPA nominees including Bill Wehrum for the air office. Other events include grid hearings tomorrow in House Science and House Energy (industry sector experts testifying including SEIA's Abby Hopper, AWEA's Tom Kiernan, ACCCE's Paul Baily and NEI's Maria Korsnick). Also Wednesday, Senate Commerce Committee will mark up a bill meant to boost self-driving cars. Our friends at SAFE can provide you with excellent background and resources, as they did here in the San Jose MercNews. Finally Thursday, House Energy returns to electricity to hear from consumer groups/advocates.

This week on Wednesday, SEJ launches its annual meeting in Pittsburgh. There will be a number of great tours during the day Thursday and great policy panels on Friday and Saturday. And, of course, Bracewell is hosting our annual reception on Thursday night.

Finally, Congrats to the Business Council for Sustainable Energy, who is celebrating its 25th

Anniversary, with a reception Thursday evening at Stanton & Greene. Good luck on the next 25!!!!

Supreme Court Fall Term launches today. Call with questions. Best,

Frank Maisano

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FRANKLY SPOKEN

“American energy security has now improved for five years in a row, despite rapidly challenging market conditions and geopolitical tensions. Just five years ago, the story was much different. But because of the shale revolution that has taken place during this time period, our nation enjoys much greater energy self-sufficiency, which translates into fewer imports, lower costs, and reduced emissions.”

Karen Harbert, president and CEO of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s Global Energy Institute.

“From the outset, Georgia Power and the project co-owners have worked to minimize the impact of the project on our customers’ bills and these additional loan guarantees will help us continue to reduce our financing costs.”

Paul Bowers, chairman, president and CEO of Georgia Power.

IN THE NEWS

Georgia Power Received Additional Loan Guarantee Commitments for New Vogtle Units –

The DOE has conditionally approved a \$3.7 billion increase in the federal loan guarantees for the over-budget Vogtle nuclear project in Georgia, the agency announced this morning. Georgia Power had previously secured loan guarantees of \$3.46 billion for the construction of Vogtle units 3 and 4, the first to be built in the United States in more than 30 years. With a total of more than \$5 billion in anticipated DOE loan guarantees, Georgia Power expects to be able to provide more than \$500 million in present-value benefits to its customers.

More Information on Decision, Vogtle – Georgia Power owns 45.7% of the new units, with the project's other Georgia-based co-owners including Oglethorpe Power, MEAG Power and Dalton Utilities. On August 31, Georgia Power filed a recommendation with the Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) to continue construction of the Vogtle nuclear expansion supported by all of the project's other co-owners. The recommendation was based on the results of a comprehensive schedule, cost-to-complete and cancellation assessment launched following the bankruptcy of Westinghouse in March. The Georgia PSC is expected to review the recommendation and make a decision regarding the future of the Vogtle 3 & 4 project as part of the 17th Vogtle Construction Monitoring (VCM) proceeding. Final approval and issuance of these additional loan guarantees by the DOE cannot be assured and are subject to the negotiation of definitive agreements, completion of due diligence by the DOE, receipt of any necessary regulatory approvals, and satisfaction of other conditions.

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Rural Co-ops Support Oglethorpe, SoCo – The rural co-ops weighed in on the DOE's loan guarantee for the Plant Vogtle nuclear power project. Co-Op Oglethorpe Power in Georgia is one of the co-owners and will have a share of the loan (about \$1.6 billion). NRECA CEO Jim Matheson today applauded the decision saying: "Today's announcement is welcome news for Oglethorpe Power, the Vogtle project, and the future of America's electric generation. Nuclear energy is an essential source of emissions-free, 24/7 power. This DOE loan guarantee will help promote a diverse fuel mix, which is vital as electric co-ops work to meet 21st century energy needs and ensure continued access to affordable, reliable power. I applaud DOE and Secretary Perry for recognizing the value of this project and making it more affordable for our members."

DOE Urges FERC to Take Swift Action to Address Threats to Grid Resiliency – DOE formally proposed that FERC take swift action to address threats to U.S. electrical grid resiliency. Pursuant to his authority under Section 403 of the Department of Energy Organization Act, the Secretary urged the Commission to issue a final rule requiring its organized markets to develop and implement reforms that would fully price generation resources necessary to maintain the reliability and resiliency of our nation's grid.

Why DOE – After Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Rick Perry issued his April 14 memo directing staff to study baseload power concerns, we explained that DOE had authority to direct the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to undertake rulemakings. Secretary Perry is primarily responsible for ensuring the electrical grid meets America’s needs now and into the future and FERC is charged with regulating the markets to achieve that mission. The recent [Staff Report to the Secretary on Electricity Markets and Reliability](#) showed that while today’s grid is reliable, market distortions are threatening its resilience and the future of American energy security.

Letter to FERC/NOPR – The full text of the Secretary’s [Letter to the Commission](#) as well as the [Proposed Rule](#) are both available at DOE’s website, www.energy.gov.

Insight From ClearPath – ClearPath Executive Director Rich Powell offered insights saying by urging FERC to establish a new tariff allowing highly reliable and resilient operators (who have 3 months or more of on-site fuel supply in place) to recover their full costs of generation, DOE today takes a historic step to shore up our vital national nuclear fleet. This approach will work within the wholesale electricity markets as opposed to forcing further bottom-up state action to save the plants -- out of market actions that add further complexity and uncertainty to our already un-level playing field for power. ClearPath hopes this is the beginning of a holistic review of the functioning of the wholesale power markets, which might also include changes to how generators are compensated, as well as formal valuation of clean power. Some observers may be concerned that this measure compensates all highly reliable sources of power, including unmitigated coal. ClearPath believes that FERC, and the RTOs and ISOs, will be able to design a tariff structure that compensates all highly reliable generators to remain online and ready to run, without necessarily increasing the dispatch of emitting sources like unmitigated coal. ClearPath has been calling for FERC to move ahead rapidly on this price formation reform agenda -- see below: <https://clearpath.org/jay-and-richs-take/why-rebuilding-ferc-quorum-matters-for-nuclear>

Renewables Express Concern – The American Wind Energy Association also released this statement regarding [DOE’s announcement on grid resiliency](#): Amy Farrell, Senior Vice President, Government and Public Affairs, American Wind Energy Association: “We worry today’s proposal would upend competitive markets that save consumers billions of dollars a year. The best way to guarantee a resilient and reliable electric grid is through market-based compensation for performance, not guaranteed payments for some, based on a government-prescribed definition.” On background, in June, the CEO of NERC testified to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that [“the state of reliability in North America remains strong, and the trend line shows continuing improvement year over year.”](#) Christopher Mansour, vice president of federal affairs for the Solar Energy Industries Association: “While we agree that wholesale markets should fully compensate generators for all the energy, capacity and ancillary

services they provide, healthy competition should always promote the best, most innovative solutions," he said. The conservative R St. Institute called Perry's plan "an arbitrary backdoor subsidy to coal and nuclear plants."

Ameren to Add Wind, Solar, Reduce Emissions – Ameren Missouri has announced plans to add enough solar and wind electricity to power 214,000 homes. The St. Louis-based subsidiary of Ameren Corp. said adding at least 700 megawatts of wind power would cost about \$1 billion and take until 2020. Ameren says improving technology and renewable energy initiatives with large customers could boost the wind investment higher. Adding 100 megawatts of solar power is expected to occur over 10 years, but no costs estimates are available. One solar facility at St. Louis Lambert International Airport is slated to be completed next year. Ameren is working to reduce its carbon emissions 80% by 2050 from 2005 levels.

Chamber Releases Energy Security Index – The 2017 edition of Global Energy Institute's *Index of U.S. Energy Security Risk* finds that U.S. energy security is continuing to rapidly improve to one of the best scores in decades, after hitting bottom just five years ago. The Index employs 37 different energy security metrics in four major areas of risk: geopolitical, economic, reliability, and environmental. A lower Index score indicates a lower level of risk. The eighth annual edition of the Index covers 1970-2040 and incorporates the latest historical data and forecast models. In 2016—the most recent year available—the risk score dropped another 1.3 points to 76.0, the lowest score since 1995. Since 2011, the total risk index score has dropped by 25 points, the largest rise or fall during any five year period since 1970. Of the 37 metrics, 18 showed decreases of more than 1 percent, while another 9 remained about the same. Among the areas of improvement were fuel imports, energy expenditures, energy use intensity, and environmental categories. The biggest areas of improvement in the Index were related to oil and gas expenditures, which are a result of increased domestic shale production. The single largest category that saw improvement was security of US natural gas imports. On the flip side, price volatility risks, related largely to the recent plunge in the price for crude oil, remained high. Metrics related to electric grid reliability risks during periods of peak demand also inched higher. This year's Index features special sections on electricity capacity margins and transmission lines, which contains additional data and analysis regarding demand and infrastructure. The Index and its companion, the International Energy Security Risk Index, are available on our website at: www.globalenergyinstitute.org/energysecurity. The U.S. index is once again available in an online, interactive web tool format, which makes it easy to see how various metrics change from year to year.

ON THE SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

Geothermal Conference Set for Utah – The Geothermal Energy Association (GEA) is holding GEOEXPO+ on today through Wednesday at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City, UT. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the GRC Annual Meeting.

FERC Commissioner, Interior Official Headlines NA Gas Forum – The North American Gas Forum is being held today and tomorrow in Washington DC. FERC Cheryl LeFleur and Interior's Vincent DeVito will deliver a keynotes tomorrow and there will be a members panel featuring Reps. Scott Tipton, Joe Barton, Bill Johnson and Others. Other speakers include INGAA's Don Santa, former FERC Commissioner Tony Clark, RFF's Richard Newell, ClearView's Kevin Book, PJM's Craig Glazer, NGS's Dena Wiggins and DOE's Fossil Energy Office acting chief Robert Smith.

WCEE Hosts Federal Lands Discussion – Today at Noon, the Women's Council on Energy and the Environment (WCEE) holds a forum to discuss current opportunities and challenges for the development of energy and mineral resources under the new Administration. Among other hotly debated topics, the event will cover the role of climate change considerations in decision-making, potential changes in mitigation requirements, issues regarding royalty valuation and payment, and still unresolved issues regarding the scope of Presidential withdrawal authority onshore and offshore under decades-old statutes.

CCS Forum to Look at Norway Success Story – The Global CCS Institute will hold a forum tomorrow at 9:00 p.m. in National Press Club's Zenger Room on the Innovation and low-carbon policies that are driving the development of clean energy technologies around the world. The discussion will explore how Norway has fostered the development of its carbon capture infrastructure, as well as the emerging business case for carbon capture in the U.S. and globally. Featured speakers Gassnova CEO Trude Sundset, Rich Powell of ClearPath Foundation, Thina Saltvedt of Nordea Bank Norge and Statoil VP of New Energy Solutions Steinar Eikaas, who operates the world's most successful carbon capture project in the North Sea.

US ITC to Hold Solar Remedy Hearing – The US International Trade Commission will hold a hearing at 9:30 a.m. on the remedy portion of its solar trade case. Last week, petitioners filed testimony in the case with the solar industry further attacking the case.

House Science to Look at Grid – The House Science Committee will hold a full committee hearing tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. looking at grid resiliency. The purpose of the hearing is to define resiliency, examine electric resiliency from both physical and cyber threats, and to study the

effectiveness of private and government coordination on resiliency across the electricity delivery sectors. This hearing will specifically discuss the recommendations made by the National Academies of Sciences. Witnesses will include the University of Illinois' William Sanders, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Electricity Market Manager Carl Imhoff, Gavin Dillingham of the Houston Advanced Research Center and Walt Baum of the Texas Public Power Association.

Senate Energy to Vote on Noms, Discuss Energy Storage – The Senate Energy Committee will hold a hearing tomorrow at 10:15 a.m. to vote on DOE nominees Bruce Walker for DOE's assistant secretary for the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability and Steven Winberg as DOE's assistant secretary of fossil energy. The Committee will then turn to a Hearing on energy storage technologies. Witnesses include Pacific Northwest National Laboratory expert Vincent Sprenkle AES Energy Storage VP Praveen Kathpal, Simon Moores of Benchmark Mineral Intelligence and Voith's John Seifarth.

CAP to Discuss Hurricane Impacts – The Center for American Progress and former Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator Craig Fugate will host a forum tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. on disaster lesson learned. Fugate will discuss his experience following Superstorm Sandy. His remarks will be followed by a panel of experts who will highlight different aspects of the recovery, including best practices for building resilient infrastructure, public health challenges in the wake of disasters, and the need for aid to flow to historically disadvantaged communities simultaneously dealing with flood damage, toxic waste, and air pollution in the aftermath of hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria.

Forum to Look at Iran Deal – Tomorrow at 1:30 p.m., the Center for a New American Security will hold two panel discussions on the implications of the potential collapse of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). The discussion will focus on what happens if President Trump begins unraveling the nuclear agreement in mid-October by not certifying Iranian compliance to Congress and will also examine other potential collapse scenarios. Our friend Elizabeth Rosenberg is among the panelists.

House Energy to Return to Reliability – The House Energy panel returns to the resiliency theme for part II of last week's hearing on the topic. This hearing will include comments from the industries that were supposed to be featured in the initial afternoon session. Witnesses include SEIA's Abigail Ross Hopper, ACCCE's Paul Bailey, API's Marty Durbin, AWEA's Tom Kiernan, NEI's Maria Korsnick, NRDC's FERC expert John Moore, Energy Storage Association CEO Kelly Speakes-Backman and Chelan County PUD General Manager Steve Wright on behalf of National Hydropower Association.

NatGas Winter Outlook Set – The Natural Gas Supply Association holds its winter outlook media briefing for 2017-2018 Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

EPA, NRC Noms Hearing Reset – The rescheduled Senate Environment Committee confirmation hearing will be held Wednesday for several EPA posts and Jan Baran at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Testifying will be four EPA nominees: Bill Wehrum to run the air office, Matthew Leopold to be general counsel, Michael Dourson to run the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention and David Ross to run the water office. The committee shelved a hearing planned for last week on the picks after the Senate adjourned earlier than expected for Rosh Hashanah.

Senate Commerce to Mark up AV Legislation – The Senate Commerce Committee will mark up a bill meant to boost self-driving cars on Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. The "American Vision for Safer Transportation Through Advancement of Revolutionary Technologies (AV START) Act," S. 1885, aims to reform existing laws to get self-driving cars on the road, clarify state and federal oversight of the technology, and direct the Transportation Department to set new safety standards. It is sponsored by Sen. Gary Peters and Chairman John Thune with co-sponsors Roy Blunt and Debbie Stabenow. Our friends at SAFE can provide you with excellent background and resources.

House Energy to Look at Air Quality, Wildfires – House Energy and Commerce Environment Subcommittee will hold a hearing on Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. to get the perspectives of key stakeholders on the air quality impacts of wildfires. Witnesses include John Bailey of Oregon State University, Florida Forest Service director Jim Karels, Murphy Company Resources VP Knox Marshall and Restoring America's Forests Director Christopher Topik.

Clean Energy Conservatives Meet – On Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, the Christian Coalition, Young Conservatives for Energy Reform, and Veterans for Energy Reform are hosting an evening reception at their annual Conservative Clean Energy Summit. Last year, the event brought in over 500 attendees from around the country and focused on the issue of energy reform. The event includes visits to Capitol Hill with conservative lawmakers.

Holmstead Featured at EPIC Forum on Energy – My colleague Jeff Holmstead is joining a panel hosted by the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC) on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. that will address what Americans think about the direction of energy and climate policy. Holmstead and Sue Tierney (EPIC's inaugural policy fellows) will be moderated by our friend Jon Fahey, AP's Global Health & Science Editor. The event will focus on the results of an EPIC/AP-NORC poll coming out on Monday that tracks opinions on central topics shaping the energy and climate landscape. More. It will be livestreamed at epic.uchicago.edu/live.

SEJ Set for Pittsburgh – Speaking of Pittsburgh, SEJ's 27th [annual conference](#) is set for Wednesday through Saturday in Steel City. Bracewell hosts its annual reception on Thursday night.

Vets in Energy Forum Set – Veterans In Energy will [hold a forum](#) on Thursday and Friday at NRECA in Arlington. VIE provide transition, retention and professional development support to the growing population of military veterans who have chosen energy careers. Speakers will include Chris Hale of GI Jobs and Gen. John Allen, former Dep Commander of US Central Command.

CSIS to Look at Electrification – The CSIS Energy & National Security Program will host a discussion on Thursday at 9:30 a.m. looking at the future of electrification with Arshad Mansoor, Senior Vice President of Research and Development at the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). Mansoor will provide an overview of the recent EPRI report, *The Integrated Energy Network: Connecting Customers with Reliable, Affordable and Cleaner Energy*, which calls for a more interconnected and integrated energy system through greater electrification. Frank O'Sullivan, Director of Research and Analysis at the MIT Energy Initiative, and Ken Colburn, Principal and U.S. Program Director at the Regulatory Assistance Project, will follow with views on the opportunities and benefits, as well as obstacles and potential drawbacks of a path to a more electrified economy. This event is part of CSIS's ongoing work on [Electricity in Transition](#), which surveys the current landscape of the U.S. and global electricity sector.

CSIS to Look at Hurricane Impacts – The Center for Strategic & International Studies will also [hold a forum on Thursday at 10:00 a.m.](#) on rebuilding better after hurricanes. Puerto Rico recently suffered devastating damage as a result of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Hurricane Irma, a category 5 hurricane, caused power outages for over 1 million people living in Puerto Rico. The forum will engage in discussions geared toward reform, reconstruction, and modernization of infrastructure and preparedness. It will feature Luis Fortuño, 10th Governor of Puerto Rico.

House E&C to Look at Consumer Views of Electric Markets – The House Energy & Commerce Committee will convene a hearing on Thursday at 10:00 a.m. on consumer-oriented perspectives on improving the American electricity markets. Witnesses include Joseph Bowring of Monitoring Analytics, Stefanie Brand of the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel, Electricity Consumers Resource Council head John Hughes, Public Citizen’s Tyson Slocum, Rebecca Tepper of the consumer liaison group for the ISO New England Region and Walmart’s Mark Vanderhelm.

Forum to Look at LNG in Latin America – The Atlantic Council hosts a forum on Thursday at Noon looking at the Growing Role of LNG in Latin America. Natural gas is emerging as a critical source of energy in the Americas and around the world, and Latin America is rapidly becoming a key destination for US LNG exports. Latin America is currently the number one destination for US LNG exports, accounting for over 40%. Many governments in the region see natural gas as a low-carbon energy option that can support their increasing turn towards renewables. Additionally, lower global LNG prices, the impacts of drought conditions on the region’s hydropower sector, and a departure from industries such as coal and diesel have driven the demand for LNG and calls into question whether this is an opportunity for Latin America to become more integrated. The forum will feature a conversation with Argentinian Ministry of Energy and Mining Transport Director Gonzalo Aguirre, Jose Luis Castro of Sociedad Portuaria El Cayao (SPEC), Giovanni Machado of Empresa de Pesquisa Energética and the State Department’s acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Energy Resources Sue Saarnio.

ELI, DC Bar to Look at Policy Reversals – The Environmental Law Institute and the DC Bar are hosting a forum on Thursday on how agencies often reverse policy. Since the presidential transition, EPA and other agencies have used a variety of tools to change policies and regulations. Three common tools they have used are stays, remands, and reconsideration. Agencies administratively stay the effective date of rules preventing them from going into effect, seek voluntary remand of rules in litigation to revisit rules administratively while avoiding a judicial decision, and administratively reconsider rules. Some of these actions have been the subject of the heated litigation, and the courts have acted to constrain agency discretion, including in an important D.C. Circuit decision rejecting EPA's stay of the oil and gas methane rule. Expert panelists will discuss the use of these legal tools in changing agency policy, and offer cutting-edge perspectives from the government, the private sector, and the environmental advocacy community.

IN THE FUTURE

WRI to Host Forum – Experts from the Open Government Partnership and World Resources Institute will hold a forum next Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. on climate action. The forum will profile a range of innovative approaches that open government advocates have taken to strengthen countries' climate commitments under the Paris Agreement. Together, they will unpack how improving transparency, accountability and public participation in climate decision-making processes can help governments and civil society leaders around the world achieve ambitious climate targets.

Forum to Look at US-China Relations – The Atlantic Council's Global Energy Center and the Brent Scowcroft Center's Asia Security Initiative will hold a timely conversation next Tuesday on the role energy plays in the US-China relationship. The US administration's emerging diplomatic strategy and the upcoming nineteenth national congress of the Communist Party of China provide an opportunity to take stock of the role energy plays in the US-China relationship, as well as in how China views its future. Key issues in the US-China relationship include the role of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in the US-China Comprehensive Economic Dialogue, China's view of US energy exports, and how energy fits into the administration's trade agenda. Speakers include our friend Robert Fee of Cheniere Energy, ITC Assistant Secretary Alan Turley and DOE China advisor Maria DiGuilian with our friend Keith Johnson of *FP* moderating.

Report top Look at Highly-Enriched Uranium Facilities – On Wednesday October 11th, the Fissile Materials Working Group and International Panel on Fissile Materials will launch of a major new IPFM research report, edited by Pavel Podvig, with contributions by six leading Russian experts on highly enriched uranium (HEU) facilities. The report describes in unprecedented detail Russian programs that use HEU as fuel in military and civilian applications. Further, it assesses Russia's contribution to the effort to convert research reactors from HEU to non-weapon-usable low-enriched uranium fuel, and Russia's efforts to repatriate HEU fuel it had supplied to facilities abroad. Finally, it evaluates the organizational structure and regulations governing the security of HEU in civilian facilities in Russia. It makes recommendations for securing Russia's commitment to the goal of a comprehensive global HEU minimization strategy.

ACORE Finance Forum Set – The American Council on Renewable Energy will hold forum on the state of the renewable energy public policy, financial markets and corporate renewables strategy when they hold ACORE Finance West on October 12th at the Bently Reserve in San Francisco. This annual conference convenes senior investors, industry executives, and other top transactional professionals to address market trends in the context of renewable investment opportunities in the Western U.S.

Bloomberg Hosts Sustainability Forum – Bloomberg holds its 3rd annual Sustainable Business Summit on October 12-13th in its New York offices to discuss how companies are yielding

positive returns for investors, creating sustainably valuable products and processes, and developing innovative sustainable business models. Uniquely positioned at the intersection of sustainable business and sustainable investing, the summit will explore the challenges and even greater opportunities emerging across industries.

WAPA to Host Road Rally – The [Washington Automotive Press Association](#) holds its [2017 WAPA Rally](#) on October 12th. This year's event will be a drive event on the roads just beyond the Chesapeake Bay Bridge on the scenic Eastern Shore of Maryland. The event provides the opportunity to drive or ride in the latest and greatest cars, trucks and SUVs provided by WAPA's automotive partners.

CSIS to Host IEA Renewable Energy Report Launch – The CSIS Energy and National Security Program is hosting Heymi Bahar, Project Manager of the Renewable Energy Division at the International Energy Agency (IEA), on Thursday October 12th [for a presentation of the IEA's Renewable Energy Market Report 2017](#) (formerly titled Medium-Term Renewables Market Report). The report provides a detailed market analysis and overview of renewable electricity capacity and generation, biofuels production, and heat consumption, as well as a forecast for the period between 2017 and 2022. This year's report also assesses the off-grid solar market in Africa and developing Asia and the contribution of electric vehicles to renewable road transport. Our friend Kevin Book will moderate.

BPC to Host Moniz on Nuclear – The [Bipartisan Policy Center](#) will host former Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz a conversation on October 18th at 9:00 a.m. with BPC President Jason Grumet to discuss the vital role U.S. nuclear energy plays in achieving national security objectives. The conversation will highlight the key takeaways from *The U.S. Nuclear Energy Enterprise: A Key National Security Enabler*, a report issued by Sec. Moniz's new Energy Futures Initiative.

Renewable Tour Set for October Shenandoah Fall – JMU's Center for Wind Energy joins the nonprofit American Solar Energy Society (ASES) and hundreds of solar-savvy installers and grassroots organizations throughout America to showcase thousands of solar-powered homes, schools and businesses in Virginia and across North America -- for the [22nd Annual National Solar Tour](#), the world's largest grassroots solar event. The ASES National Solar Tour shows families and businesses real-life examples of how their neighbors are harnessing free energy from the sun to generate electricity, warm and cool their homes, heat water and slash monthly utility bills.

Green Bonds Conference Set for NYC – Environmental Finance will host Green Bonds 2017 at 10 on the Park in New York City on October 23rd. According to the [Green Bonds Database](#), the American green bonds market has continued its rapid growth with over 17\$ billion issued in the last twelve months.

At the conference this year we will look at the drivers behind this boom and how to ensure sustainable growth as the market matures.

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