

January 31, 2022

The Honorable Sherrod Brown  
Chairman  
Senate Banking Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Pat Toomey  
Ranking Member  
Senate Banking Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Brown and Ranking Member Toomey:

The undersigned organizations write to express our concerns with some of the views of Ms. Sarah Bloom Raskin, nominated by President Biden on January 14, 2022, to serve as Vice Chair for Supervision of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; specifically, views that the Federal Reserve should take action to discriminate against American energy companies. On behalf of the millions of Americans employed by domestic energy industry, we urge the Senate Banking Committee to ensure that nominees for the Federal Reserve will not use the power of the Federal Reserve and other regulatory means to disadvantage American energy companies in the global energy marketplace.

We are troubled that Ms. Bloom Raskin, a former Member of the Board of Governors, has advocated for the Federal Reserve to pursue policies to discriminate against American energy producers. Specifically, in a 2020 New York Times op-ed, Ms. Bloom Raskin called traditional energy a “dying industry” and argued that American energy companies be ineligible for the Federal Reserve’s Main Street Lending Program, the Small Business Administration’s Paycheck Protection Program, and from broad-based business tax programs. These programs and tax code provisions are generally available to all businesses in all industries. Ms. Bloom Raskin also argued that the Federal Reserve should allocate capital to finance politically favored energy sources to combat climate change, even though this goal is at odds with the Federal Reserve’s statutory mandate 12 U.S. Code § 225a. She has also supported using the Federal Reserve’s “stress tests” for banks as a method to reduce capital to traditional energy companies.

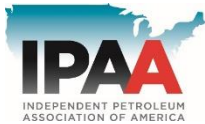
At a time of record inflation, and energy-related geopolitical instability, it has never been more important to support the millions of Americans and small businesses that benefit from a strong domestic energy industry, and our international allies that value the stable source of energy that the U.S. provides them. We are concerned that the positions held by Ms. Bloom Raskin could result in fewer good-paying American jobs, raise Americans’ energy costs, and harm our national security by increasing our dependence on foreign sources of energy. Moreover, policies that unilaterally target the American energy industry often have the unintended consequence of increasing global emissions by shifting production to countries with lower environmental standards than the U.S.

We urge the Committee to recognize the rapid private sector progress that our industry continues to make in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and our commitment to building on this progress. American producers' commitment to environmental protection is clear, as the United States is a world leader in both energy production and CO2 emissions reductions over the past two decades. Economic policy and regulatory overreach that harm domestic producers will hurt our country's climate leadership around the world.

As the Banking Committee considers the nomination of Ms. Sarah Bloom Raskin, we urge Senators to support the traditional U.S. energy industry and the environmental, economic, and security benefits associated with Made-in-America energy production.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,



CC:

Members of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs