



June 11, 2025

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Lee
Chairman
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable James Comer
Chairman
House Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chairman
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Moolenaar
Chairman
House Select Committee on the CCP
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Members of Congress,

I write to alert you to a critical national security threat detailed in a new report from State Armor titled “*Who is Energy Foundation China (EFC)?*” This report is focused on a large U.S.-based entity operating as a front group for the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) with the purpose of shaping America’s energy policy to the benefit of Beijing and at the expense of American energy independence.

State Armor was founded to help American states resist Chinese influence and defend U.S. sovereignty. Our latest investigation exposes how EFC, while posing as a U.S. 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is advancing the CCP’s strategic objectives within our open society by influencing and shaping local and state policy. Its leadership includes CCP members with deep ties to the Chinese government, and its operations occur under the watchful eye of Communist China’s state security apparatus.

EFC is not just promoting environmental advocacy; it is executing a sophisticated influence campaign. By funding elite academic research, convening activist groups, and cultivating relationships with U.S. lawmakers, including with Governor Gavin Newsom during his 2023 visit to China, EFC is steering America toward a future of energy dependence on China.

Technological dependence on the CCP is a crisis in any industry. Yet recent reporting reveals the scale of the threat in the energy sector. Reuters recently reported that China is selling batteries and solar inverters into our energy grid that contain undisclosed electronic backdoors that could offer Beijing the ability to remotely shut off our power. Furthermore, China is exploiting our dependence on their rare earth mineral supplies—critical inputs for green energies and other advanced technologies—by restricting their export in order to create leverage in trade negotiations.

The EFC erodes American resilience by advancing policies that rapidly force the U.S. off more reliable energy sources that are controlled by U.S. producers onto less reliable green technologies—including wind, solar, and battery technologies—that are overwhelmingly dominated by Chinese supply chains. The CCP aims to cripple one of America’s strategic advantages: our energy independence and technological self-reliance.

President Trump’s recent executive order targeting foreign interference in national energy policy acknowledges this threat. It highlights how progressive state and local officials are weaponizing dubious legal theories to attack U.S. energy producers, a tactic influenced by years of conditioning and financing from groups like EFC.

Beijing thinks it is too late for the U.S. to save itself from dependence on Chinese energy technologies. Liu Zhenmin, China’s climate czar, said in November that even President Trump is “unlikely to completely change the green energy transitions that have already begun in various parts of the U.S.” because of the effectiveness of CCP influence operations. If we allow this dependence to continue, Beijing will wield their increasing control over the energy systems Americans depend upon in service to their geostrategic aims.

Congress must act. Oversight is urgently needed to expose the full extent of this operation, beginning with Energy Foundation China. The EFC is not a passive observer; it is an active player in a geopolitical contest where America’s energy security and global leadership hang in the balance.

I urge you to read the enclosed report and use it as a roadmap for investigating and confronting this grave and ongoing threat to our national security.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Lucci", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Lucci
Chief Executive Officer, State Armor