



MEDIA ADVISORY

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Energy Experts to Host Capitol Hill Panel Discussion on How Market Forces are Driving Texas to a Cleaner Electric Grid

Leading voices from local government and the Texas electric utility sector will gather on Capitol Hill **at noon on Thursday, March 8**, to discuss how market forces are largely driving the Lone Star State toward a cleaner electric grid.

The panel discussion, entitled *“Red State = Clean Energy: How Market-Driven Clean Energy is Transforming the Texas Electric Grid,”* is sponsored by the R Street Institute, the Texas Clean Energy Coalition (TCEC) and *The American Conservative*. The event will take place in **Room 2045 of the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C.**

Moderated by Josiah Neeley, senior fellow, energy policy director and Southwest region director for the R Street Institute, the panel will discuss how market-driven trends are playing out in the Texas electric market, how conservative leaders are embracing the economic benefits of clean energy, and what the “Texas Story” can teach policymakers about current energy debates in Washington, D.C., and other red states across the country.

The panelists include:

The Honorable Dale Ross, Mayor of Georgetown, Texas

A conservative Republican, Mayor Ross has moved his fast-growing Central Texas city to 100 percent renewable power.

Kenneth W. Anderson, Jr., Former Commissioner of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) from 2008-17

Appointed in 2008 by former Texas Gov. Rick Perry, Anderson served on the PUCT during the early stages of the clean energy transition.

Cheryl Mele, Chief Operating Officer of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT)

ERCOT manages the flow of electric power to 24 million Texas customers – about 90 percent of the state’s electric load.

Elizabeth Lippincott, Executive Director of the Texas Clean Energy Coalition (TCEC)

TCEC commissioned groundbreaking research from The Brattle Group on the market forces driving the Lone Star State's transition to natural gas and renewable energy.

The event will stream live on the R Street Institute, TCEC and The American Conservative Facebook pages: <https://www.facebook.com/RStreetInstitute/>;
<https://www.facebook.com/TXCleanEnergy/>;
<https://www.facebook.com/The.American.Conservative/>.

To RSVP or to arrange an interview with one of the panelists, please contact Julie Hillrichs, (972) 971-0117, jhillrichs@vianovo.com; David Bahr, (202) 862-5820, dbahr@rstreet.org; or Emile Doak, (202) 955-3600, edoak@theamericanconservative.com.

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About the R Street Institute

The R Street Institute (www.rstreet.org) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, public policy research organization devoted to promoting free markets and limited, effective government.

About the Texas Clean Energy Coalition

The Texas Clean Energy Coalition is an alliance of business and economic development groups, faith-based organizations, Latino and African-American communities, labor, and academia dedicated to building a clean energy economy that creates jobs and economic growth in the Lone Star State. Its goal is to educate Texans and support a state energy policy that promotes clean energy markets, job growth, energy security and Texas' energy leadership in the U.S. and around the world. For more information, visit the coalition's Web site at www.texascleanenergy.org.

About The American Conservative

The American Conservative (www.theamericanconservative.com), a bi-monthly journal of opinion, exists to promote a "Main Street" conservatism that opposes unchecked power in government and business; promotes the flourishing of families and communities through vibrant markets and free people; and embraces realism and restraint in foreign affairs based on America's vital national interests.