

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

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www.science.house.gov

March 10, 2023

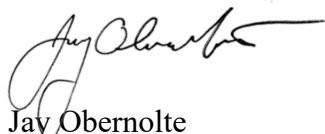
The Honorable David M. Turk
Deputy Secretary
Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20585
Dear Mr. Turk:

The Wall Street Journal reported last month that the Department of Energy (Department) had recently announced that it had altered its position regarding the origins of COVID -19.¹ The Department now joins the Federal Bureau of Investigation in concluding that the COVID-19 pandemic likely originated in a lab located in Wuhan, China. The House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology (Committee) is interested in learning from the Department why such a change in stance was necessary and what scientific and intelligence metrics were utilized in coming to this new stance. For this reason, the Committee requests a classified briefing that explains this shift in position as well as reasons that support the change. We ask that you provide this classified briefing on or before March 20, 2023. Please contact [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] of the Committee's Majority staff at (202) 225-6371 to schedule the classified briefing or should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Frank Lucas
Chairman
House Committee on
Science, Space, and
Technology



Jay Obernolte
Chairman
House Committee on
Science, Space, and
Technology
Subcommittee on
Investigations and Oversight



Brandon Williams
Chairman
House Committee on
Science, Space, and
Technology
Subcommittee on Energy

¹ Michael R. Gordon, *Lab Leak Most Likely Origin of Covid-19 Pandemic, Energy Department Now Says*, WALL STREET JOURNAL (FEB. 26, 2023), <https://www.wsj.com/articles/covid-origin-china-lab-leak-807b7b0a>.