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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEES
CHAIRMAN, OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS
ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
SUBCOMMITTEES
HEALTH CARE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES
FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

November 11th, 2026

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
2056 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Minority Leader Jordan:

First, congratulations on your selection to serve in the newly elected Republican leadership team. Your colleagues have entrusted you with an important responsibility at a challenging moment for our Conference and our country. I look forward to working with you as we navigate the next Congress, defend our principles, and chart a strong path forward for House Republicans.

I am writing to respectfully ask for your support to serve as Ranking Member of the House Committee on Natural Resources in the 120th Congress.

The results of the midterm elections have fundamentally changed the political landscape in Washington. With Democrats now controlling both chambers of Congress, Republicans face a difficult period ahead. We will be called upon to defend our accomplishments, protect the priorities of the American people, support the Trump Administration, hold the new majority accountable, and stand firmly against an increasingly radical and extreme Democratic agenda.

While the national results were disappointing, I am grateful that the voters of Arizona's Ninth Congressional District once again returned me to Congress with an overwhelming vote of confidence. I do not take that support lightly. It reinforces my commitment to the principles I have fought for throughout my time in Congress and to continuing the work our constituents expect of us.

This is not a time for inexperienced leadership or business as usual. It is a time for seasoned, principled leadership, substantive policy knowledge, and aggressive oversight. I believe my experience, seniority, legislative record, history of fighting and my service as the current Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee Chair have prepared me to meet this moment.

Experience, Seniority and a Record of Results

I bring substantial experience, institutional knowledge, and a record of results to this position. I am a senior member of the Natural Resources Committee and currently serve as Chairman of its Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee. I also serve on the Energy and Mineral Resources

Subcommittee. I understand the Committee's jurisdiction, its responsibilities, and the critical role it plays in shaping our nation's energy, mineral, water, and public lands policies.

Throughout my service, I have respected the longstanding seniority tradition and have been a team player throughout my time on the Committee. I have not sought to leapfrog colleagues who have served ahead of me. I believe experience and seniority matter, and I have been patient while continuing to do the work.

My record reflects that commitment. I have helped enact legislation addressing public lands, water rights, energy development, wildfire prevention, and responsible resource management. These accomplishments include the Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Act, which resolved longstanding water rights issues involving the Hualapai Tribe, federal government, Arizona Game and Fish Department, private interests, and a mining operation. I also secured passage of legislation advancing solar energy development in La Paz County, public lands exchanges, and critical infrastructure and land-use priorities throughout Arizona.

I have also worked to build a stronger voice for the West. Under my leadership, the Congressional Western Caucus grew by 49 dues-paying members, reaching 79 members and eventually expanding to 100. It became the second-largest caucus in the House. I know how to build coalitions, bring members together, and advance a shared agenda.

A Ranking Member Who Will Fight—and Deliver Results

The next Congress will demand a Ranking Member who is prepared to fight. Democrats will have control of both chambers, and we can expect an aggressive effort to advance extremist policies that threaten American energy production, undermine local control, restrict responsible resource development, and expand federal authority.

We cannot passively sit through hearings and send strongly worded letters. Oversight must produce results. We must identify waste, fraud, abuse, and government overreach; establish the facts; hold federal agencies accountable; and pursue meaningful legislative and administrative remedies. I have a long record of doing exactly that, including through field hearings and investigations that bring federal agencies directly before the American people.

I am a solutions-driven legislator. I look beyond the conventional approach, think outside the box, and work to find practical answers to difficult problems. I measure success by results, not headlines or activity. As Ranking Member, I will bring that same approach to the Committee's work: identify the problem, develop a strategy, and follow through until we achieve meaningful results.

At the same time, effective leadership requires knowing when to work across the aisle. I will never compromise my principles, but I will work with anyone when doing so produces a meaningful result for the American people. President Biden signed my legislation terminating the COVID-19 national emergency into law—an example of what can be accomplished when we put results ahead of partisan politics.

As Ranking Member, I will make certain that the Committee serves as a strong line of defense against the Democrats' radical agenda while advancing policies that protect American jobs, strengthen our national security, and put our country first.

A Clear Vision for the Committee

My priorities are straightforward:

- **American Energy and Mineral Security:** Fight for reliable, affordable American energy and expand domestic production of the critical minerals essential to our economy, defense, and national security. We cannot continue depending on foreign adversaries for resources we have here at home.
- **Water Security:** Defend Western water users, protect Arizona's fair share of the Colorado River, and ensure that federal policies recognize the needs of states, local communities, farmers, ranchers, and Tribes.
- **Federal Lands and Local Control:** Push back against federal overreach and ensure that land-use decisions reflect the needs of the people who live, work, and raise families in the West.
- **Oversight and Accountability:** Conduct meaningful investigations into federal agencies, expose waste and abuse, and hold government officials accountable when they disregard the law or exceed their authority.
- **Indian Country and Tribal Sovereignty:** Respect Tribes as sovereign nations, strengthen tribal self-determination, and ensure their voices are heard in decisions affecting their lands, water, and communities.
- **Innovation and Emerging Technologies:** Champion new technologies, innovative ideas, and American ingenuity to develop cleaner, more efficient applications of energy, improve air and water quality, and solve real-world environmental challenges. We should embrace innovation and practical solutions that deliver measurable benefits for the American people without sacrificing affordability, economic growth, or energy security.
- **Stopping the Radical Agenda:** Use every tool available to the minority to block, halt, and expose the majority's radical agenda including efforts to revive the Green New Deal, impose costly climate mandates, restrict domestic energy production, and undermine American energy independence. We must stand firm against policies that threaten American jobs, drive up costs for families, and weaken our nation defense.

I understand these issues not as abstractions, but as matters that directly affect the people of Arizona and communities across America. I will bring that perspective to the Committee while keeping our national interests at the forefront.

A Collaborative Leader and Dependable Partner

I believe good leadership starts with listening. Every Republican member of the Committee brings different experience, expertise, and strengths to the table. My approach is to recognize those talents, listen to the members, and put their abilities to work advancing a common agenda. A successful Committee is not built around one person; it is built by bringing people together, making the most of their strengths, and delivering results.

I understand that serving as Ranking Member is about more than leading the Committee. It means being a dependable partner to our Republican leadership, the Steering Committee, and every member of our Conference. I will work collaboratively, keep members informed, coordinate our oversight efforts, and help build consensus around priorities that strengthen our Conference and serve the country.

I am not seeking this position simply because I want the title. I am seeking it because I believe I have the experience, knowledge, convictions, and work ethic to lead this Committee effectively at a time when our Conference needs strong leadership.

I have earned my place on this Committee. I have respected the seniority tradition. I have delivered legislative results, built organizations, conducted aggressive oversight, and fought for conservative principles. I am ready to put that experience to work for our entire Conference.

I respectfully ask for your support for Ranking Member of the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to our Conference.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Gosar, ~~D.D.S.~~
Member of Congress

Jim, your support would mean a great deal to me. I hope I can count on you.