

Dear DOE Colleagues and Friends,

Today, as a new president is inaugurated, a new administration will arrive, and my time at the Department of Energy will conclude. It's been the joy of a lifetime to serve as your Secretary.

Someone once said there are no second acts in American life, but this proud Army vet can attest that there are second tours. As many of you know, I served the Department from 2001 to 2003 as an Assistant Secretary. The fact that I returned in August 2017, initially as Deputy Secretary, should tell you what I think of DOE's noble mission and you, the Department's outstanding professionals who serve this nation with honor and dedication.

From advancing nuclear security to confronting the environmental legacy of past nuclear deterrence to meeting our country's pressing energy and economic challenges, you and I worked together on some of the most vital issues of our time, and I'm delighted by the progress we made. We made innovation the cornerstone of our energy policy by removing unnecessary regulations and by supporting our great National Laboratories as America's incubators of ingenuity and discovery.

Featuring a strategy that included every energy source and technology at our disposal, these policies have transformed our nation and world. They fueled America's energy revolution, making us an energy-independent country and a world energy powerhouse. The United States is the number-one producer of oil and natural gas and number two in wind and solar generation. We now export our LNG to 38 nations spanning five continents. Nuclear energy is being revitalized, coal is now cleaner than ever, and America continues to lead every nation in reducing energy-related carbon emissions.

Our energy progress brought economic revival to places like Appalachia while empowering our friends and allies abroad by offering them the fruits of our innovation, from natural gas to nuclear energy.

It is your commitment, devotion, and focus that helped create and sustain our incredible success story. But that's not all. After I became Secretary in December 2019, you helped us meet one of the greatest challenges of our lifetime: the rise and spread of COVID-19.

You helped ensure our health and safety through teleworking. From procuring supplies to researching therapies, you who work at our labs played a pivotal role in America's all-hands-on-deck fight against the virus. As the pandemic grew, you who work in the cyber arena helped block bad actors from taking down our country's power grid. And as we worked with the President to deal with the devastating declines in energy demand and prices, I will never forget those of you who provided sage counsel in this effort.

In all of this and more, you have done an exceptional job for our Department, for our nation, and for its people.

For those of you who will be leaving with me, thank you for a job well done. For those who will continue with the mission, I leave the Department in your committed and capable hands. As I told my designated successor, Governor Granholm, there are none better than you.

I want to thank President Trump and the U.S. Senate for making my time at DOE possible. Most of all, I want thank all of you again for making that time one I will always cherish.

Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette