

**Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for hosting another in this series of hearings regarding threats to America's critical infrastructure. As with other hearings on this subject, we focus on the role of technology in supporting this infrastructure. The dilemma we face is that many of the same technological developments that improve efficiency also create new security vulnerabilities, some of which we are only beginning to understand. I hope that through these hearings we can expand our understanding of how to improve security hand in hand with efficiency.**

**I always regret when we must close a hearing to the public. These are issues that demand public**

**involvement. However, there are times when closing a hearing is necessary and advisable. I hope that we can find a way in the coming weeks to make sure that the information discussed here will be processed into a form such that we can share the salient points with the public while protecting the most sensitive portions of the testimony. Thank you.**