



Public Hearing: Keeping Pennsylvania Moving - Addressing the Rising Cost of Energy

“Keeping Pennsylvania Moving: Addressing the Rising Cost of Energy” will examine how rising electricity and fuel costs affect Pennsylvania businesses, workers and consumers.

August 27, 2026 | 1:00 p.m.

Hearing Overview

- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Welcome**
- **Opening Remarks**
 - Chairman David H. Rowe
 - State Representative Andrea Verobish
- **Testimony from Invited Experts**
- **Member Discussion with Testifiers**
- **Closing Comments & Adjournment**

Testifiers

- **Bill Ward Jr.**, President/CEO, Ward Transport and Logistics
- **Richard Weyant**, Facilities Maintenance Manager, Shirley’s Cookie Company
- **Stephanie Catarino Wissman**, Executive Director, API Pennsylvania

Livestream

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About the Testifiers



Bill Ward Jr.

Bill Ward, Jr. is President and CEO of Ward Transport & Logistics, leading the fourth generation of his family to operate the Altoona-based, family-owned transportation and logistics company founded in 1931. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Ward served six years as a Naval Surface Warfare Officer before returning to Blair County in 2017 to join the family business. He became President in 2019 and President and CEO in 2023. Under his leadership, Ward has focused on strategic growth, technology, customer service, workforce development, and maintaining the company's strong family-business legacy.



Richard Weyant

Richard Weyant serves as Facilities Maintenance Manager for Shirley's Cookie Company, where he is responsible for overseeing the maintenance, repair, and upkeep of the company's facilities, equipment, and operational systems. In his role, he helps ensure that the company's production environment remains safe, efficient, and reliable, supporting the day-to-day operations of the business. Weyant brings a strong background in mechanical and maintenance operations, as well as experience working with equipment and facility systems. A resident of the Altoona area, he is a graduate of Altoona Area High School and has also earned Pennsylvania state inspection certifications.



Stephanie Catarino Wissman

Stephanie Catarino Wissman is Executive Director of the American Petroleum Institute Pennsylvania (API PA), where she leads the organization's efforts to represent Pennsylvania's natural gas and oil industry before state and local governments, the business community, and the public. She has served in the role for more than a decade and brings extensive experience in government affairs, energy policy, and advocacy. Prior to joining API Pennsylvania, Wissman served as Director of Government Affairs for the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, focusing on energy and environmental issues, and previously worked in government affairs for Sprint/Embarq. She is a graduate of Penn State University and is active in several community and industry organizations.

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