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Dr. Erica Downs is a Senior Research Scientist in the China Studies division of the CNA Corporation, a non-profit research and analysis organization located in Arlington, VA. She is also a Non-Resident Fellow at the Center on Global Energy Policy at Colombia University. She previously worked as a senior analyst in the Asia practice at Eurasia Group, a fellow in the John L. Thornton China Center at the Brookings Institution, an energy analyst at the Central Intelligence Agency and a lecturer at the Foreign Affairs College in Beijing, China. She holds a Ph.D. and an M.A. from Princeton University and a B.S. from the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. She is an honorary research fellow at the Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy at the University of Dundee.

Dr. Downs previously testified before the Commission in 2006, 2008, 2011, 2013, and 2015.