



SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE CCP

DEMOCRATS | RANKING MEMBER RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

October 22, 2025

Kevin Hassett
Director
National Economic Council
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Director Hassett:

I write to express serious concern about the growing economic risk of chokepoints that have emerged from our economy's interdependence with the People's Republic of China (PRC). The Trump Administration's recent trade war with Beijing has revealed and, in several instances, exacerbated structural vulnerabilities across key sectors of the American economy. Whereas the United States should be using trade tools such as tariffs to punish nonmarket behavior, it has become clear that we must also conduct a coordinated strategy that safeguards the American economy from the weaponization of interdependence. I am requesting from the National Economic Council information on what, if any, strategy this Administration has adopted to proactively preserve the integrity of vital parts of the U.S. economy as we escalate tensions with our greatest economic adversary.

The PRC's dominance in the production and processing of critical minerals is a prime example of how economic dependence can quickly evolve into strategic leverage. The PRC currently controls roughly 70 percent of global rare earth mining and more than 90 percent of the world's magnet manufacturing capacity, granting Beijing considerable influence over the supply chains underpinning advanced manufacturing, clean energy technologies, and national defense.¹ Recent PRC export licensing requirements on a range of rare earth minerals and magnet products demonstrate the ease with which the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) can leverage access to these resources as tool of coercion.

The agricultural sector offers another troubling example. China's retaliatory tariffs on U.S. soybeans have decimated access to what was once our largest export market. This crisis has not only harmed rural economies but also demonstrated the vulnerability of America's agricultural exports to foreign economic coercion.

These two examples illustrate how economic interdependence with the PRC can quickly be converted risk exposure for the U.S. economy. These scenarios could be replicated many times over. Other sectors such as pharmaceuticals, pharmaceutical ingredients, industrial chemicals, and industrial machinery may harbor similar chokepoints that could be exploited in future conflicts or trade disputes. As Ranking Member of the Select Committee, I am deeply concerned that the United States lacks a coordinated federal framework to map, monitor, and mitigate such risks.

¹ Baskaran, Gracelin. "China's New Rare Earth and Magnet Restrictions Threaten U.S. Defense Supply Chains." *Center for Strategic and International Studies*, 9 Oct. 2025, www.csis.org/analysis/chinas-new-rare-earth-and-magnet-restrictions-threaten-us-defense-supply-chains.

I respectfully request that you provide the Select Committee with an overview of what the Administration is currently doing to assess and de-risk these dependencies. Secretary Bessent recently made remarks that indicate a desire to de-risk from China, threatening wholesale decoupling if the PRC does not engage as a cooperative partner in negotiations.² I respectfully request answers to the following questions:

- Has this Administration's National Economic Council coordinated with the Department of Commerce, Department of Defense, Department of Energy, Department of the Treasury and United States Trade Representative on a comprehensive mapping of U.S. supply chain vulnerabilities to foreign control or disruption particularly with respect to China?
 - If such an assessment exists, I request a briefing on its findings, methodology, and implementation status.
 - If no such analysis has been completed, I strongly urge the Administration to initiate one immediately.
- What steps are being taken to coordinate with allies and partners to de-risk and reinforce critical supply chains away from the influence of the PRC?
- What scenario planning, stockpiling, or other contingency measures are being implemented to protect the United States from potential disruptions in the event of future PRC retaliation on key sectors?

Transparency in this process is essential. I urge the Administration to commit to regular public reporting on supply chain vulnerabilities, mitigation progress, and risk assessments. The American public and Congress must have confidence that these risks are being addressed systematically, not reactively. Stakeholder engagement across industry, academia, and state governments will be crucial in ensuring a resilient and competitive economic foundation.

Absent decisive action, the United States will continue to learn about CCP chokepoints only after they have been weaponized against us. As our strategic competition deepens, we cannot afford to remain reactive. A forward-leaning national strategy, one that identifies and mitigates chokepoints before they are exploited, is essential to preserving America's economic sovereignty and industrial security.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Ranking Member
House Select Committee on the CCP

² Sevastopulo, Demetri. "US Warns World Will 'Decouple' from China if It Imposes New Export Controls." *Financial Times*, 15 Oct. 2025, www.ft.com/content/15a957a7-104e-431a-807e-441e5c2c753f.