**Energy Efficiency as the Big Economic Hitter Rather than Energy Supply**

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To draw an analogy from baseball (America’s pastime), from both an economic and climate perspective, it is the bottom of the 9th. As the United States thinks about the energy to drive positive momentum ahead, we need our big hitter. And the big hitter in this case? It is greater levels of energy efficiency rather than simply more energy supply.

As the chart below suggests, compared to 1950 energy efficiency now meets 63% of the demand for energy services that, in turn, support nearly an eight-fold increase in economic activity. Energy supplies, on the other hand, provide only 37% of the needed energy services. This insight draws on an analysis from the usual accounts published by the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Yes, we can talk through the impact of structural change and different level of imports as they might impact the larger economy, but energy efficiency remains the big hitter.

As we think about addressing our future social and economic well-being, as well as adopting meaningful climate solutions, productive investments in greater levels of energy efficiency should remain at the forefront of our policies, supported, in turn, by the immediate and greater emphasis on renewable energy technologies.

