

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

President Joseph Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania, Avenue, Northwest
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Unleash American Energy Production

October 25th, 2022

Dear Mr. President:

While millions of Americans are struggling to fill up their gas tanks, pay their electric bills, heat their homes and feed their families, it was disappointing to see your announcement last week to yet again play politics with America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve. There is a better way, that will provide lasting energy price relief and security for American families. Our nation's abundant natural resources should be unleashed to provide homegrown solutions.

Because of the American Shale Revolution, the U.S. now leads the world in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We not only have the abundant resources to meet growing domestic demand, but we also can export our surplus of critical energy resources to growing economies in Africa and Asia to help replace higher-carbon emitting fuels with clean, American natural gas. U.S. energy exports can also play a critical role in aiding our European allies as they face an energy shortage with an unpredictable winter around the corner.

Mr. President, only four of the top ten natural gas producing countries in the world are liberal democracies. This is an opportunity for America to lead, and global demand is only going up. Vladimir Putin has recently shut down the Nord Stream pipeline, holding Europe hostage with his energy monopoly. Now is a monumental opportunity for America to lead in providing the world with clean, reliable energy. This will free our allies who are beholden to dictators and autocratic regimes to keep their lights on.

These solutions are simple and will not cost taxpayers a dime. These are commonsense energy policies that will let our domestic oil and gas operators invest and develop projects around the country. Independent producers are the authors of the great American Shale Revolution that spurred innovative technologies that transformed our nation's energy landscape from energy scarcity to energy abundance.

This abundance, coupled with smart, America-first policies, allowed the U.S. to decrease its reliance on imports from a record high of 3.7 billion barrels of oil in 2006 down to 2.2 billion barrels in 2021 – a 41 percent decrease. Additionally, unleashing American energy production will support low and stable energy prices, while supporting good-paying American jobs around the country.

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Mr. President, this winter, New England should get its natural gas from Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, not Trinidad & Tobago, and certainly not Russia. Americans should not have to rely on foreign natural gas imports because of a lack of adequate energy infrastructure to meet their needs. Increasing our nation's energy infrastructure is critical to ensuring we can meet our growing energy demands while continuing to reduce emissions. We need a holistic approach that includes additional pipelines and U.S. refining capacity.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) should not be a hindrance in advancing additional energy infrastructure. The NEPA review process needs to be more efficient, consistent, and focused on the goal of improving agency decision making within reasonable timeframes. Additionally, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) should not pursue pipeline permitting policies that would hinder the ability to build the energy infrastructure needed to access US resources right in our backyard or impede the permitting of new liquified natural gas facilities.

It is also important that we unleash the natural resources on federal lands that offer a solution to combat high energy prices, and we encourage your administration to support production on federal lands. America needs this production. This includes the U.S. Department of the Interior holding regular lease sales—as statutorily required by the Mineral Leasing Act.

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With our abundant natural resources, we have a once in a lifetime opportunity to cement our role as a global provider of clean and abundant U.S. natural gas. Our natural gas can go to countries who have been held hostage by Russia's weaponization of its gas supplies to Europe. FERC and The US Department of Energy (DOE) should expeditiously review and act on U.S. LNG facilities' permitting applications, so that our abundant natural gas can be exported to our allies.

In addition to supporting the necessary infrastructure here at home, the Administration should promote utilization of U.S. LNG around the world as a cleaner, more responsible choice to alternative energy sources, and support policies that will encourage building additional import capacity around the globe.

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Your administration should send a signal of support for the domestic production of oil and gas. Anything to the contrary will send mixed messages to the global community as to the stability and reliability of U.S. oil and natural gas supplies on the market.

Mr. President, the U.S. independent oil and gas industry has gone above and beyond and has demonstrated a commitment to transparency in meeting ambitious climate goals. They innovate without being asked, and have worked to be good environmental stewards in communities across America.

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Please end your regulatory war on America's oil and gas producers. Encourage more open collaboration with regulators and stakeholders on climate solutions. Additionally, the Securities and Exchange Commission should reconsider its climate disclosure proposal, and build on existing efforts underway to further consistency and comparability of climate-related reporting.

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As in many other industries, domestic oil and gas operators have been burdened by supply chain disruptions. Developing oil and gas projects is a complex and costly process which takes considerable time and resources. These factors are further complicated by current supply chain disruptions, labor shortages, and inflationary costs. In fact, inflationary pressures are leading to 15-20% increases in capital expenditures just to maintain current oil and natural gas production levels.

We request your administration's trade policy consider the importance of critical components of energy production, and we implore you to work with industry on reducing supply chain bottlenecks.

Mr. President, in conclusion, these policies are simple and will advance our climate goals while bolstering our energy security. We encourage you to take this crucial step to help lower the high energy costs burdening Americans across the country. We do not need to seek answers from hostile nations—the solution is below our feet.

Sincerely,



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress



Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress

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