Committee on Natural Resources

Rep. Nick J. Rahall, II - Chairman

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Drilling Facts

81% of estimated oil and gas resources on federal lands both onshore and underlying federal waters offshore in the Outer Continental Shelf are available for development or will be accessible pending the completion of land-use planning or environmental reviews. The amount of oil and gas in these reserves is equal to 107 billion barrels of oil and 658 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

- The amount of oil which could be produced from these reserves is 10 times the amount that could be produced from opening up ANWR.
- The amount of oil which could be produced from these areas represents over 14 years of current U.S. oil consumption (7.5 billion barrels per year).
- The amount of gas which could be produced from these areas represents over 30 years of current U.S. gas consumption (21.8 trillion cubic feet of natural gas per year).
- The production of these energy resources would provide the country with additional time to develop alternatives to oil and gas and reduce our dependency on energy imports.

68 million acres of federal lands both onshore and underlying federal waters offshore in the Outer Continental Shelf are currently being held by oil and gas companies with no production occurring on these leases.

- That 68 million acres of leased but stockpiled federal oil and gas lands could produce an additional 4.8 million barrels of oil and 44.7 billion cubic feet of natural gas each day.
- That would nearly double total U.S. oil production and increase natural gas production by 75%.
- It would cut U.S. oil imports by one-third.
- And it would be more than six times the estimated peak production from ANWR.