

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 2008

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-107, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madame Speaker and Mr. Leader,

It is our hope that all Democrats and all Republicans can stand together to celebrate American Energy Freedom Day on October 1, 2008. On that day, the current prohibitions on oil and gas leasing on most of the Outer Continental Shelf and on oil shale leasing on federal lands will expire, unless Congress acts to extend them. We strongly encourage you to allow the expiration of these prohibitions on American energy exploration and production, as scheduled under current law, and will actively oppose any attempt to extend them.

When these prohibitions expire on October 1, 2008, as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2008 (Public Law 110-161), all Americans will benefit, for vast amounts of American petroleum and natural gas will immediately become available for leasing activities. Estimates from the Minerals Management Service and the Bureau of Land Management indicate that there are upwards of 18 billion barrels of recoverable crude oil on the currently off-limit areas of the Outer Continental Shelf, as well as more than 55 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. Estimates of American oil shale vary widely but range from the hundreds of billions of barrels to trillions of barrels of oil.

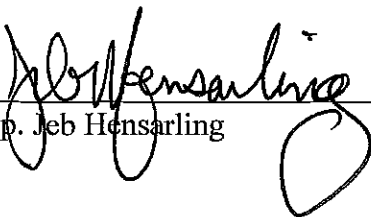
Those hardest hit by the high prices at the pump are Americans who don't have the wiggle-room in their budgets for this tremendous increase to their cost of living. For example, Americans in rural areas and out West often must drive great distances to get to work; public transportation isn't an option. Most Americans cannot afford the newest hybrid vehicles, and many people depend on less efficient trucks, vans, and SUVs for their livelihoods.

Taking advantage of American resources will increase the worldwide supply of petroleum and bring down prices at the pump. The very *access* to these resources will send powerful price-reduction signals to the futures markets, providing immediate relief.

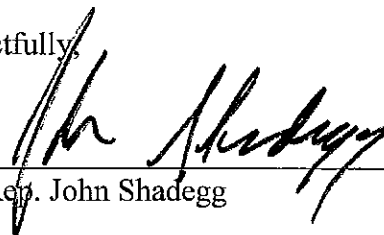
We therefore urge you not to schedule any legislation that would extend the prohibitions on leasing on the Outer Continental Shelf and in the American interior for oil shale. Should any legislation extending these prohibitions be sent to President Bush's desk, we would vigorously encourage the President to veto.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to celebrating with you a victory for the American people on American Energy Freedom Day.

Yours Respectfully,



Rep. Jeb Hensarling



Rep. John Shadegg

~~Kevin Brady~~

Mary Fattis

John Lewis

John Klein MN-2

Thelma Grace

Sam Johnson

Paul Boyer

Steve Sealise

Michael T. McCarl

Steve Chabot

Nichelle Bachmann MN-6

Dan Burton Ind-5

Long Samborn CO-5

Paul E. Ryan

Lynn Allen

Bob E. Latta

Mel Rogers (MI)

Robert Hayes

Bob Bly

W. G. O'Leary

Pat Tibb

Jack Flynn

Donna

Ann Paul

Judy Foster

Tom Fesney

Eric Cuth

Kay Brewer

Virginia Fox

Phil Ingrey

John Eric

Jane Camp

Jean Schmitt

Aue Myrick

Joe Wilson

Rodney Alexander

Jim Wallberg

John Smith

Randy Muzglauer

Thomas B. D

John Aulterson

Joseph Pitts

Anna Adams

Sammy Self

Robert

Edie Smith NE-3

Jim Jordan OH-4

K. Y. Dwyer IV-11

Louis Lehman

Anna Blackman

Bill Satis

David Davis

Denny Redding

Michael R. Jones

[Signature]

Mae Thurg

James I. Walsh

Robert Wirth

Ed Whitfield

Tom Johnson

Howard Cole

Garland

Donald A. Mampello

Bob Goodlatte

Wally Huger

John T. Donlitt

Todd Tihart

J. Sh. (IL-19)

Lamar Smith

Jack Kingston

Phil English

Pete Heckler

Byron

Mark Souder

~~Ann Pearce~~

~~Ann~~

~~7. McOttie~~

~~Ken Long~~

~~4/1 M.R.~~

Virgil Goodlett

John Roogna

~~Ed Sessions~~

Marilyn Musgrave

Randy Kuhl

John Long

Paul Ryan

Jeff Davis

Z. Mann

~~Pattee~~

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Joe Burton

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Gary Bang-Waith

Ed Royce

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Jerry Moran

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Tony Evers

Frank D. Lucas

Eric Cantor

Paul Wolf

Jim Jersbrenner

Steve By

John E. Peterson

Ken Keller

XXX 3:

Gene Lewis

NS

Howard P. Buck

W. G. Young

Ken Caldwell

Sully Goodgito

Scott Garrett

Lynn Westcott

Kent Starks

Ch. Bonbrun

Ralph M. Hall

Doc Patz

Guy Well

Tom Linn

Phil Buys

Roy Walden

Hey E. Byrd

Barbara Cubin

Al Rogers

Demi Nunn

J. McCrory

Cc: Rep. David Obey, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee
Rep. Jerry Lewis, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee
Rep. John Dingell, Chairman, House Energy & Commerce Committee
Rep. Joe Barton, Ranking Member, House Energy & Commerce Committee
Rep. Nick Rahall, Chairman, House Natural Resources Committee
Rep. Don Young, Ranking Member, House Natural Resources Committee
Republican Leader John Boehner
Republican Whip Roy Blunt

Signers of the American Energy Freedom Day Letter

Sent September 16, 2008

1. Aderholt
2. Akin
3. Alexander
4. Bachmann
5. Bachus
6. Barrett
7. Bartlett
8. Barton
9. Bishop
10. Blackburn
11. Blunt
12. Boehner
13. Bonner
14. Boozman
15. Boustany
16. Brady
17. Broun
18. Brown
19. Brown-Waite
20. Burgess
21. Burton
22. Buyer
23. Calvert
24. Camp
25. Campbell
26. Cannon
27. Cantor
28. Capito
29. Carter
30. Chabot
31. Coble
32. Cole
33. Conaway
34. Crenshaw
35. Cubin
36. Culberson
37. Davis, David
38. Davis, Geoff
39. Deal
40. Doolittle
41. Drake
42. Duncan
43. Emerson
44. English
45. Everett
46. Fallin
47. Feeney
48. Flake
49. Forbes
50. Fossella
51. Foxx
52. Franks
53. Gallegly
54. Garrett
55. Gingrey
56. Gohmert
57. Goode
58. Goodlatte
59. Granger
60. Graves
61. Hall
62. Hastings, Doc
63. Hayes
64. Heller
65. Hensarling
66. Herger
67. Hoekstra
68. Hulshof
69. Hunter
70. Inglis
71. Issa
72. Johnson, Sam
73. Jordan
74. Keller
75. King, Peter
76. Kingston
77. Kline
78. Knollenberg
79. Kuhl
80. LaHood
81. Lamborn
82. Latham
83. LaTourette
84. Latta
85. Lewis, Jerry
86. Linder
87. Lucas
88. Lungren
89. Manzullo
90. Marchant
91. McCaul
92. McCotter

93. McCreery	125. Sali
94. McHenry	126. Scalise
95. McKeon	127. Schmidt
96. McMorris Rodgers	128. Sensenbrenner
97. Mica	129. Sessions
98. Miller, Gary	130. Shadegg
99. Miller, Jeff	131. Shimkus
100. Moran	132. Shuster
101. Musgrave	133. Simpson
102. Myrick	134. Smith, Adrian
103. Neugebauer	135. Smith, Lamar
104. Nunes	136. Souder
105. Paul	137. Sullivan
106. Pearce	138. Tancredo
107. Pence	139. Terry
108. Peterson	140. Thornberry
109. Petri	141. Tiahrt
110. Pickering	142. Tiberi
111. Pitts	143. Turner
112. Platts	144. Upton
113. Poe	145. Walberg
114. Price, Tom	146. Walden
115. Radanovich	147. Walsh
116. Regula	148. Wamp
117. Rehberg	149. Weldon
118. Renzi	150. Weller
119. Reynolds	151. Westmoreland
120. Rogers, Harold	152. Whitfield
121. Rogers, Mike	153. Wilson, Joe
(MI)	154. Wittman
122. Roskam	155. Young, Don
123. Royce	
124. Ryan, Paul	

Staff Contact: paul.teller@mail.house.gov