



AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist
President

September 9, 2008

The Honorable Arlen Specter
711 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Specter,

On behalf of Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) and millions of taxpayers tired of high energy prices, I urge you to sign Senator Jim DeMint's petition to protect American Energy Freedom Day.

October 1, 2008 is the expiration date for current prohibitions on energy leasing on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and oil shale leasing on federal lands in the Western United States. Senator Jim DeMint has organized a bicameral petition to ensure these prohibitions are not renewed and to protect October 1st as American Energy Freedom day.

Despite overwhelming public support for renewed drilling to boost supply, reduce dependence on foreign oil and lower prices, members in both chambers would prefer to sneak through a renewal of prohibitions on OCS and oil shale leasing by passing a continuing resolution during the next three weeks.

The public support for increased domestic energy production provides a great opportunity for us to stand firm and end the moratorium. By doing so, we will begin to tap into what the Minerals Management Service and the Bureau of Land Management believe to be tens or hundreds of billions of barrels of domestic oil under the OCS and Western federal lands.

The United States consumes 7.5 billion barrels of oil each year. There are over 115.4 billion barrels of oil currently unavailable in the OCS. With your help, we can unlock these resources.

Now is the time to act decisively to increase our nation's domestic energy supply and ensure the future strength of the American economy. We ask you to do just that by signing the protect American Energy Freedom Day petition.

Sincerely,

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