



AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist
President

September 16, 2008

Dear Senator,

On behalf of Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) and millions of taxpayers weary of high energy prices, I urge you to sign Senator Jim DeMint's petition to protect October 1, 2008 as American Energy Freedom Day.

On that date, the current federal moratorium on energy leasing on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), and on federal lands containing oil shale deposits, will expire. All members who sign Senator Jim DeMint's petition pledge their opposition to any Congressional action that would renew this moratorium.

Recent polling shows a large majority of Americans support new drilling. This demonstrates that the American people understand high gas prices result from stagnate or decreasing supply in a world market facing steady increases in demand. Concerned citizens will not be placated by energy legislation that maintains current barriers on drilling on American lands that contain significant energy resources.

The Minerals Management Service and the Bureau of Land Management indicate that there are over 18 billion barrels of recoverable crude oil on the currently off-limit areas of the OCS, as well as more than 55 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. Estimates of American oil shale vary from hundreds of billions of barrels to trillions of barrels of oil.

The United States consumes 7.5 billion barrels of oil each year. As the statistics above show, we possess the domestic energy resources to meet our own demand for decades. With your help, we can unlock these resources.

Allowing these moratoria on energy leasing to expire is the best energy solution before the Senate. In signing Senator DeMint's petition, you are pledging to allow this to happen and showing your expressed support for REAL energy solutions that do not tax energy producers and will actually create supply thus lowering cost.

Sincerely,

Grover G. Norquist

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