



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, January 22, 2021

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ASSAULT ON DOMESTIC ENERGY DOESN'T EQUAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

You may not have heard, but people are freezing around the world -RIGHT NOW - due to frigid temperatures and a lack of affordable, reliable energy – like the natural gas that heats most U.S. homes. Not just direct gas-fired heat, but according to the Energy Information Administration, natural gas is the #1 source for generating electricity in the U.S. What is the Biden/Harris Administration's response? It looks like they got together and said, how can we make this worse and be sure that every American has the opportunity to experience a lack of or cost-prohibitive energy.

And who will suffer first and the most? Our low income and disadvantaged communities. Just think for a moment, who is hit hardest with a rise in gasoline prices or increased cost of heating and air conditioning and other energy? The poorest among us!

In the first couple of days in office, Biden/Harris have reentered the Paris climate agreement, imposed a moratorium on oil and gas leasing on federal lands, and canceled the Keystone XL pipeline. These actions are an all-out assault on American energy independence.

Look at the potential impact the federal moratorium may have on just one state. According to the New Mexico Oil and Gas Association, the oil and gas industry supports more than 134,000 jobs and \$16.6 billion in annual economic activity. Taxes and royalties from the industry account for 33% of the State of New Mexico's annual budget, including almost \$1.4 billion for public schools.

The Paris agreement will impose costs and emission reductions in the U.S. and other western countries, but the Chinese aren't required to modify anything until 2030. Want to bet what China will do in 2030 if they decide coal is the cheapest way to fuel their growing need for power in their manufacturing industry? My money says it will be to keep building coal plants. In the meantime, we have lost more of our critical manufacturing and the reshoring of U.S. manufacturing jobs.



The Keystone XL is simply the most environmentally friendly way to move Canadian oil from Alberta to the Gulf Coast for refining. To pretend otherwise is simply pandering to environmental groups. It doesn't take a genius to know that pipes are safer, cheaper, and more environmentally positive than rail or trucks. The desire to "keep it in the ground" is out weighting science, logic, and responsible environmental stewardship. This action will also take an economic toll costing untold numbers of jobs in the U.S. and Canada, including union construction jobs.

To quote Congressman Scalise from Louisiana, "This harmful action by President Biden, on just his first full day in office, threatens the economic livelihoods of millions of American families, and should be immediately reversed. The last thing we need in the middle of a global pandemic is more unemployed Americans and higher energy costs for families who are already struggling. Energy made in America creates jobs, lowers the cost of gas and electricity for all American families and small businesses, and advances American interests on the world stage." We couldn't agree more!

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DEPA is a nationwide collaboration of 39 coalition associations – from California to West Virginia, Texas to Montana – representing individuals and companies engaged in domestic onshore oil and natural gas exploration and production. DEPA is a non-partisan association seeking common ground, and in common sense solutions to the challenges facing American oil and natural gas production.