Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 17, 2008

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Office of the Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Speaker:

Your letter to the President urging him to draw down oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve signals your recent recognition that the solution to today's high energy prices is to increase supply in the market. That is why we ask that you immediately schedule legislation to allow Members of this body to vote for increasing American supplies of energy.

As you have come to realize, supply really does affect the price consumers pay at the pump, however, we do not share your optimism that releasing "a small portion" of SPR oil would noticeably affect either world oil markets or the price of a gallon of gasoline. The three prior instances you cited in which drawing down the SPR seemed to alleviate momentary price spikes all involved temporary supply shortages. That is hardly the case today. Economists agree that today's high prices are driven by demand shock, and they also agree that world demand, high as it is today, will only continue growing regardless of what the United States does with the SPR. Successfully attacking this problem requires a sustained increase in American energy production.

You stated in your letter to the President that "deploying a small portion of the resources in the SPR would provide much needed assistance to American consumers." Can you imagine what an act of Congress, signed into law this year, to develop millions of barrels per day in Alaska, the Intermountain West, and in the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf would do?

Madam Speaker, the more environmentally conscientious countries in the world—from Scandinavia to Japan—have no qualms about developing their own energy resources, including in the waters off their own coasts. They understand this basic reality: withholding oil and gas will not alter world demand. Withholding oil may only displace production to countries with lower environmental standards than our own.

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The "severe energy price crisis facing millions of Americans," referenced in your letter compels congressional action. We have provided a list of some of the many bills introduced this Congress that if enacted would increase supplies and reduce prices for consumers.

- ✓ Access OCS – (HR 6108)
- ✓ Access ANWR – (HR 6107)
- ✓ Alternative Fuels for Defense and Aviation – (HR 6131)
- ✓ Boutique Fuels – (HR 2493)
- ✓ Coal-to-Liquids – (HR 2208)
- ✓ Develop Oil Shale Resources – (HR 6138)
- ✓ Repeal Section 526 of EISA 2007 – (HR 5656)
- ✓ Refineries – (HR 6139; HR 2279)

Americans want more energy production here in America, and we urge you to let the will of the American people prevail by permitting the House to vote on whether we will allow more American energy supply. This is the people's House. Let's take the action our constituents need and demand.

Sincerely,

Joe Barton

Ed Royce

Nathan Deal

Jerry Lewis

Paul C Broun

Ken Calvert

Elton Gallegly

Cliff Stearns

IL-19

Harold Rogers

Tom Latham

Dan Burton

Barbara Cubin

Sam Johnson

Thelma Drake

Mark Burgess

Pete Sessions

Ralph M. Hall

Lamar Smith

Ed Whitfield

Geoff Davis

Dry Walden

Rob E. Fatta

Michael T. McCaul

Joe Heusarling

[illegible]

Jean Schmidt

Sue Myrick

Candice S. Miller

JOE Wilson

Daniel Issa

Ron Paul

Kevin Brady

[illegible]

Kay Granger

Doug Lamborn

John Culberson

Thomas B. [illegible]

David Davis

Marsha Blackburn

Phil Gingrey

[illegible]

[illegible]

Randy Kuhl

T. McCotter

John Campbell

Shelley Moore Capito

Robert B. Aderholt

John Sim

Howard P. "Buck" McKeon

John Kline

John Boozman

Todd R. Platts

[illegible]

[illegible]

Randy Neugebauer

[illegible]

Louie Gohmert

John Shadegg

Denny Rehberg

Bill Shuster

Charles W. Dent

Terry Everett

Jerry Moran

List of Signatures:

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Rep. Joe Barton (TX-06)
Rep. Fred Upton (MI-06)
Rep. Ed Royce (CA-40)
Rep. Nathan Deal (GA-09)
Rep. Jerry Lewis (CA-41)
Rep. Paul C. Broun (GA-10)
Rep. Steve Buyer (IN-04)
Rep. Ken Calvert (CA-44)

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Rep. Elton Gallegly (CA-24)
Rep. George Radanovich (CA-19)
Rep. Cliff Stearns (FL-06)
Rep. Jo Ann Emerson (MO-08)
Rep. John Shimkus (IL-19)
Rep. Ralph M. Hall (TX-04)
Rep. Harold Rogers (KY-05)
Rep. Lamar Smith (TX-21)
Rep. Tom Latham (IA-04)
Rep. Ed Whitfield (KY-01)
Rep. Dan Burton (IN-05)
Rep. Geoff Davis (KY-04)
Rep. Barbara Cubin (WY-At Large)
Rep. Charles W. Boustany, Jr. (LA-07)
Rep. Sam Johnson (TX-03)
Rep. Greg Walden (OR-02)
Rep. Thelma Drake (VA-02)
Rep. Robert E. Latta (OH-05)
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Rep. Pete Sessions (TX-32)

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Rep. Mike Rogers (MI-08)
Rep. Jean Schmidt (OH-02)
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Rep. Candice S. Miller (MI-10)
Rep. Joe Wilson (SC-02)
Rep. Darrell Issa (CA-49)
Rep. Ron Paul (TX-14)
Rep. Kevin Brady (TX-08)

Rep. John R. Carter (TX-31)
Rep. Kay Granger (TX-12)
Rep. Doug Lamborn (CO-05)
Rep. John Culberson (TX-07)
Rep. Tom Price (GA-06)
Rep. David Davis (TN-01)
Rep. Marsha Blackburn (TN-07)
Rep. Phil Gingrey (GA-11)
Rep. K. Michael Conaway (TX-11)
Rep. W. Todd Akin (MO-02)

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Rep. John R. "Randy" Kuhl, Jr. (NY-29)
Rep. Thaddeus G. McCotter (MI-11)
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Rep. John Sullivan (OK-01)
Rep. Howard P. "Buck" McKeon (CA-25)
Rep. John Kline (MN-02)
Rep. John Boozman (AR-03)
Rep. Todd Russell Platts (PA-19)
Rep. Kenny Marchant (TX-24)
Rep. Gresham J. Barrett (SC-03)
Rep. Randy Neugebauer (TX-19)
Rep. Kenny C. Hulshof (MO-09)
Rep. Louie Gohmert (TX-01)
Rep. John B. Shadegg (AZ-03)
Rep. Dennis R. Rehburg (MT-At Large)
Rep. Bill Shuster (PA-09)
Rep. Charles W. Dent (PA-15)
Rep. Terry Everett (AL-02)
Rep. Jerry Moran (KS-01)