

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 8, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

We praise your decision to join energy leaders in rejecting Russian crude oil imports, capping Russia's largest source of revenue as they continue their illegal invasion of Ukraine. We urge you to take a step further and send a strong signal to the people of Ukraine and our allies and partners around the world that the United States will be a reliable producer and supplier of oil and natural gas for the foreseeable future. The United States has the capacity to reduce our dependence on foreign sources of energy and lead in supplying the world with the cleanest oil and natural gas.

Last year, the U.S. imported an average of 209,000 barrels per day (bpd) of crude oil and 500,000 bpd of other petroleum products from Russia, marking an 11-year high.¹ While this accounts for 8% of U.S. liquid fuel imports, it totals \$17.5 billion, and helps finance President Vladimir Putin's reckless and illegal invasion of Ukraine.

The U.S. is the largest producer of oil and natural gas, and recently became the world's top exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG). We have the resources and expertise to strengthen our economy and reduce the world's reliance on Russian energy. For the first time since 2008, Americans are paying an average of more than \$4 per gallon at the pump largely due to our dependence on foreign oil and restrictions on domestic production. While we understand and applaud your administration's commitment to address climate change, the U.S. abides by the most stringent regulations making our oil and natural gas the cleanest in the world.

Now is the time to take practical steps to promote long-term American energy production and lower costs for American consumers, drive down global emissions, and demonstrate to the rest of the world that they can rely on American oil and natural gas for their energy needs well into the future. Specifically, we call on you to encourage the Department of Energy (DOE), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the Department of the Interior (DOI), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and other agencies to adopt clear policies that ensure consistency, transparency, and timeliness for American energy investments. Domestic energy producers, refiners, and exporters are ready, willing, and able to work with your administration to give our allies access to a reliable source of energy and provide relief to American consumers.

We cannot wait for tomorrow to do what needs to be done today. We must unleash responsible domestic production to counter reliance on Russian oil and gas, while simultaneously cutting off

¹ <https://www.afpm.org/newsroom/blog/oil-and-petroleum-imports-russia-explained>

Russia's largest source of revenue. Now is the time to regain our energy independence and support our allies around the globe.

Sincerely,



Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



Sylvia Garcia
Member of Congress



Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress



Filemon Vela
Member of Congress