

Erik Milito Group Director, Upstream & Industry Operations API 1220 L Street, NW Washington, DC 20005-4070 Telephone 202-682-8273 Fax 202-682-8426 Email militoe@api.org www.api.org

June 12, 2013

The Honorable Doc Hastings Chairman House Committee on Natural Resources 1324 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Hastings:

On behalf of the American Petroleum Institute, I write to express our support for two important pieces of legislation you have introduced, the Offshore Energy and Jobs Act (H.R. 2231) as well as the National Petroleum Reserve Alaska Act (H.R. 1964). Polls continue to show the American public supports increased access to American energy, both onshore and off of our coasts, and your bills will help drive us towards that goal through safe and responsible development of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A).

The United States has an opportunity that few nations ever get. We have a chance to be a dominant player in global energy markets and guarantee our energy security for decades to come. Expanded domestic energy production will create tens of thousands of jobs, generate billions of dollars of revenues for federal and state governments, and make us a more energy secure nation. We can realize these benefits by developing our oil and natural gas resources off our coasts in the Atlantic, Pacific, the Arctic and eastern Gulf of Mexico and onshore in areas like the NPR-A. In addition, implementing a system of revenue sharing is vitally important so that states that support energy development have the resources that will allow them to fund important state programs such as transportation, infrastructure improvements, and education.

To ensure we are able to meet tomorrow's energy needs, we need a comprehensive, long-term energy plan that truly includes an all-of-the-above energy approach. Oil and natural gas will deliver the majority of the country's energy for decades to come, and we must be make positive energy decisions today that will allow the U.S. to produce these supplies here at home in the future. These two bills (H.R. 2231 and H.R. 1964) are a step in the right direction and we applaud your efforts to advance smart energy policy.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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Erik Milito