


## ***A Postcard from U.S. Refineries to President Obama in Singapore***

<p>Nov. 13, 2009</p> <p>Dear President Obama, Since there hasn't been a new refinery built in the United States in over 30 years<sup>1</sup>, we aren't holding our breath for a Presidential visit. However, we're thrilled you're visiting Singapore – a country that refines nearly twice its rate of oil consumption and is a major refining center for Southeast Asia.<sup>2</sup></p> <p>While we refineries are often overlooked, we shouldn't be underestimated. Remember how gas prices spiked when U.S. refineries were shut down after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita?<sup>3</sup> If the U.S. had more refineries across the country, America might not have had that problem.</p> <p>Unfortunately, your National Energy Tax bill discourages new refineries.<sup>4</sup> But the Republican bill would accelerate the refinery permitting process, increase energy production, &amp; create new jobs<sup>5</sup>.</p> <p>Wish you were here.... U.S. Refineries</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Postcard</b></p> <div data-bbox="1226 409 1396 598"></div> <p>_____ President Barack Obama</p> <p>_____ APEC Summit</p> <p>_____ Singapore</p> <p><i>P.S. The 10.2% of Americans who need a job would be interested to know that the average refinery worker makes about \$55,000 a year.<sup>6</sup></i></p>
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### **Background**

1. The House Republican Conference [confirms](#) that “the newest significant refinery began operating in 1977.”
2. The [Energy Information Administration](#)'s profile on Singapore.
3. The Congressional Research Service reports:

*“Hurricanes Katrina and Rita shut down oil and gas production from the Outer Continental Shelf in the Gulf of Mexico, the source for 25% of U.S. crude oil production and 20% of natural gas output. Katrina, which made landfall on August 29, resulted in the shutdown of most crude oil and natural gas production in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as a great deal of refining capacity in Louisiana and Alabama, 554,000 barrels per day of which was still closed as of late October, 2005.”*

4. The American Petroleum Institute [reports](#) that:

*“The United States will be more dependent on imports of gasoline and other petroleum fuels while U.S. refining production would be shifted overseas if a climate change bill passed in the U.S. House of Representatives becomes law.”*

5. The Republican [American Energy Act](#) will:

- *Increase American supplies of gasoline and diesel by encouraging greater refinery capacity by streamlining and accelerating the refinery permitting process.*
- *Require the President to designate at least three closed military installations as potentially suitable for construction of a refinery, including at least one suitable for refining biomass to produce biofuel.*

6. The [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) confirms that the median refinery worker makes almost \$55,000 a year.

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