



Decreasing our Dependence on Foreign Oil

We spend almost one billion dollars every day on foreign oil. Much of it is sent to regimes that are hostile to America. That is money we should be investing here. We need to do what we can to reduce the demand we have for foreign oil and increase the energy sources that we can find here at home.

By reducing our dependence on foreign oil, we not only increase our energy – and national – security, but we also create jobs. Every new electric vehicle we produce domestically, every time we explore for new sources of natural gas or oil, we create jobs for Americans and build a stronger American economy.

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After decades of dependence, it will not be easy to make the transition away from foreign oil. Our legislation takes aggressive steps to reduce this dependence as quickly as possible.

- We invest over \$6 billion annually in our transportation infrastructure to increase efficiency and decrease oil consumption, including money for the Highway Trust Fund, almost \$2 billion for state and local projects that reduce oil consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, and almost \$2 billion for TIGER grants.
- We include a generous package of financial incentives to help transition today's heavy trucks into next-generation heavy-duty fleets powered by natural gas.
- We embrace the President's efforts to create strong federal standards for greenhouse gas emissions and efficiency improvements in our vehicle fleet.
- We commission a national plan to allow for the deployment of electric vehicles and require metropolitan planning organizations to include the reduction of oil consumption and greenhouse gas pollution in their future plans.
- We promote the greater inclusion of natural gas and liquid petroleum gas powered vehicles in federal fleets.

- We make important new investments in developing and manufacturing advanced vehicles, to ensure that America leads the world in advanced cars and batteries.

Increasing Our Domestic Production

Mindful of the accident in the Gulf, we promote domestic oil and gas production in order to reduce America's reliance on foreign fuels and provide necessary protections for coastal areas and marine ecosystems in the event of an accident related to oil and gas drilling activities.

We add important new protections for America's coastal communities. Unlike the current regulatory structure, under which drilling can take place three miles off the coastline, we allow states to opt-out of drilling up to 75 miles off their shores. In addition, impacted states will have the ability to block drilling plans, if they stand to suffer significant adverse impacts in the event of an accident.

For those states that choose to permit offshore drilling, we provide 37.5 percent of revenues derived from drilling activities off their coastlines. An additional 12.5 percent is devoted to federal and state programs under the Land and Water Conservation Fund.