

former CIA director John Deutch, concludes that by 2050 the PRC could require the equivalent of 200 full-scale nuke plants. A team of Chinese scientists advising the Beijing leadership puts the figure even higher: 300 gigawatts of nuclear output, not much less than the 350 gigawatts produced worldwide today.

To meet that growing demand, China's leaders are pursuing two strategies. They're turning to established nuke plant makers like AECL, Framatome, Mitsubishi, and Westinghouse, which supplied key technology for China's nine existing atomic power facilities. But they're also pursuing a second, more audacious course. Physicists and engineers at Beijing's Tsinghua University have made the first great leap forward in a quarter century, building a new nuclear power facility that promises to be a better way to harness the atom: a pebble-bed reactor. A reactor small enough to be assembled from mass-produced parts and cheap enough for customers without billion-dollar bank accounts. A reactor whose safety is a matter of physics, not operator skill or reinforced concrete. And, for a bona fide fairy-tale ending, the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is labeled hydrogen.

With this sort of news, one begins to wonder if there is any set of circumstances that will dissuade the Congress from its wrong-headed policies. We cannot afford to keep waiting. I call on my colleagues to resolve once and for all the issues of where to store the byproducts of our nuclear generation.

Technology also harbors other exciting new promises for clean energy. Coal provides 50 percent of our Nation's electrical supply, and now we can use it in a better way. Coal gasification plants—or "clean coal" strip out the pollutants that would otherwise be released into the air, allowing us to continue to draw on this abundant natural resource while also respecting our roles as stewards of the environment.

Liquified natural gas also has a significant role in satisfying our clean energy goals while helping to solve our Nation's supply and demand imbalance. But we cannot allow the Gulf of Mexico to simply become a "thruway" for LNG without recognizing the role of coastal States that host the terminals and sustain its importation. To this end, terminal siting is not only a Federal concern but a local one as well.

And finally, we simply cannot ignore the promise of hydrogen technology. Senator DORGAN has been one of the Senate's foremost leaders in this regard. I was proud to support his efforts throughout all of the iterations of the Senate Energy bill, and am very pleased to understand that many of them have been incorporated into the Energy chairman's mark.

Beyond these, there are countless alternative resources we have yet to fully explore—resources such as wind, solar and even wave energy—all of which can also be produced on the OCS with the encouragement SCORE provides.

Let me make clear: Increased domestic production and supply diversity are of paramount importance to our energy needs and national security, but no serious energy policy can ignore the

equally important need for energy conservation.

Benjamin Franklin was eminently quotable, but one of his more relevant quips is "When a well's dry, we know the worth of water." So it is with America's environment. The cost of global warming will be truly staggering when compared to conservation measures today.

There are a number of points to be raised in that regard.

First, I believe that the U.S. Government should use its power of economies of scale, and large purchasing power to set the best example. Energy efficiency should be a consideration in the design and retrofitting of U.S. Government buildings. Energy savings should be a factor in the enormous fleet of government vehicles.

I have also supported a provision, now included in the Energy chairman's mark, which would call for a reduction in our Nation's oil consumption by 1 million barrels per day over the next 10 years. We currently consume 20 million barrels. With research and technology, these are very attainable goals.

Similarly, the Senate will be best off with a smart Renewable Portfolio Standard—RPS—that it can pass. RPS is a lynchpin that will make alternative technologies commercially viable. It is a vital and logical step in our efforts toward energy independence.

And even as we address the production side of the equation, we need to make sure the energy we produce reaches consumers affordably and reliably. In our handling of OCS revenues, we ask our coastal producing States to give and give with little in return. Equally unfair are our Nation's electrical transmission policies, which expect Louisiana consumers to foot the bill for electricity consumed in other States.

For these reasons, Senator BURR and I earlier this year introduced the Interstate Transmission Act, which seeks to protect local rate payers and make electric reliability standards mandatory.

Today we make new history. It may not be as exciting as Franklin's discoveries about electricity, or require the endurance of the Corps of Discovery. But it may hold the key to America's economic future.

My Ocean Energy Initiative, which includes the Americans Outdoors and SCORE Acts, as well as a series of technology proposals still to come, creates a strong four-step framework for protecting our national economic, military and energy security by increasing, diversifying, and cleaning up our energy production and supply.

We must look for new ideas and new frontiers to support increased, diverse, and clean energy. The Ocean Frontier today presents the most immediate opportunities, but who knows what lies on the next horizon? Space, perhaps?

We must explore these new frontiers and develop the innovative new technologies to do so more effectively and responsibly.

We must share the shelf and other frontiers, so our states aren't left shouldering the burden.

And we must invest in our environment and return to our coasts, forests and green-spaces the respect and recognition befitting what they have given us by way of natural resources. We give back some of what we take.

Through a responsible balance of conservation and innovation, this Ocean Energy Initiative recognizes that the goals of energy security and environmental stewardship need not be mutually exclusive.

Mr. President, we follow in the footsteps of great pioneers: Benjamin Franklin, who put science before superstition; Thomas Jefferson, who opened the American frontier; Lewis and Clark, who journeyed into this frontier and found its rich promise; and Theodore Roosevelt, who saw that a great nation bears a responsibility of stewardship to the ground it is built upon.

If we follow their example, and continue down the path these pioneers blazed to the new frontier, we will have a bill that we can all look back on with pride.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RICHARD GAMELLI

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to the important work of the president of the American Burn Association, Dr. Richard Gamelli of the Loyola University Medical Center in Chicago, as he approaches the end of his distinguished service in that position. Under Dr. Gamelli's leadership, the American Burn Association has worked tirelessly to improve the first line of defense: the prevention of burn injuries.

The ABA encourages and supports burn-related research, education, care, rehabilitation, and prevention through a variety of programs and publications, including the production of the leading peer-reviewed, scientific journal in the burn field, the *Journal of Burn Care & Rehabilitation*. During Dr. Gamelli's tenure, the ABA has worked to improve emergency response systems and to incorporate burn care into our Nation's disaster preparedness systems in light of new threats to the United States. Under Dr. Gamelli's guidance, the ABA has expanded its reach and established its position at the forefront of its field. Many physicians, nurses, and health care workers who are members of the ABA are currently on the front lines, serving in Iraq and Afghanistan and treating America's injured soldiers.

As professor and chair of the Department of Surgery at the Loyola University Medical Center, Dr. Gamelli has dedicated his life to advancing clinical treatment of burn victims, accident and trauma victims and others whose medical needs are among the most difficult and dire a doctor ever sees. As a teacher he has provided guidance to high school students, college students,

medical students, residents, graduate students, colleagues and others, encouraging them always to strive for excellence and look for new answers. As a researcher he has helped his department secure funding for more than 20 years from the National Institutes of Health. He is nationally and internationally recognized for his research and has authored more than 150 scientific articles, 23 book chapters, and 8 books.

In 1997 and 2000 Dr. Gamelli was named by Chicago Magazine as one of "Chicago's Top Doctors," and in 1982, 1985, 1986, 1988, 1989 and 1990, he was named Professor of the Year by the medical students at Loyola. He was selected by the faculty council of Loyola University Chicago as the 2002 member of the year for his excellence in teaching, research, patient care and service. In light of his extraordinary record of achievement, his alma mater, Saint Michael's College, inducted Dr. Gamelli into the inaugural class of its Alumni Academic Hall of Fame in 2002.

Having served the ABA admirably, Dr. Gamelli recently stepped down as ABA president at this year's annual meeting. I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Dr. Gamelli for his distinguished service and for his ongoing contributions to the American people and the medical community, and I wish him all the best in the future.

REPORTING OF S. 1053

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like to give notice that on April 27, 2005 the Committee on Rules & Administration reported an original bill to amend the regulatory and reporting structure of organizations registered under section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code.

TRIBUTE TO PETER RODINO

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today to mourn the passing of former Congressman Peter Rodino and also to celebrate his life.

The son of hard-working Italian immigrants, Peter Rodino grew up on the streets of Newark, NJ, and rose to become a prominent and respected figure during a defining moment in our Nation's history.

Serving as the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Mr. Rodino was charged with managing the impeachment hearings of President Richard Nixon. He had chaired the committee for less than a year when the hearings began, and those who did not know him wondered how he would respond to such a monumental challenge.

He soon put all doubts to rest. He conducted the hearings patiently, thoroughly, and fairly, and in doing so he helped guide our Nation through a difficult test of our Constitution.

By the time the committee had heard all of the evidence about the Watergate break-in and coverup, its members approved several articles of impeachment

by overwhelming bipartisan margins. By this action, they proved that our system of government is greater than any one person or political party.

Most of the Nation got to know Congressman Rodino during the Watergate hearings, but I had known him for years through his tireless work on behalf of the people of his district and New Jersey. He loved the city of Newark and the people of Newark, and he always had their interests at heart.

Whether he was helping to pass the 1966 civil rights bill, extending the Voting Rights Act, or leading the effort to make Martin Luther King's birthday a national holiday, Peter Rodino worked tirelessly to make this Nation as great as it can possibly be.

After I came to the Senate, I had the privilege of working with him to help the people of New Jersey. We served together for 6 years, and I was always amazed by the energy and determination he brought to his job.

He had tackled every challenge with that same energy and determination, from his service in World War II with the 1st Armored Division to his work at Seton Hall law school, where he shared his love of the law with students.

Every now and then, someone comes along who is an inspiration for us all, regardless of political party, religious faith, or ethnic background. Peter Rodino was just such a fellow. While I will miss him very much, I will always treasure his friendship with me and remember all the good he did for New Jersey and its people.

VOLUNTARY PUBLIC ACCESS AND WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVE PROGRAM ACT OF 2005

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, in March Senator ROBERTS joined me in introducing S. 548, the Voluntary Public Access and Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program Act of 2005.

This legislation is enthusiastically supported not only by America's hunters and anglers, but also by agricultural producers, private landowners and those interested in rural development. Open Fields, as this bipartisan legislation is commonly known, addresses hunting, fishing and other recreational access on private land. The legislation also tackles rural development issues head on.

Dwindling access to quality hunting, angling and other wildlife-dependent opportunities is a trend that slowly is pulling apart the American sporting tradition. At the same time, farmers, ranchers, and small town businesses are desperately looking for the means and opportunities to revitalize and stimulate their local economies. These two needs, the need for better access for sportsmen who can not afford to lease land, and the need for economic stimulation in rural America have intersected and spurred the creation of highly effective state public access programs.

Walk-in or access programs are not a new concept. In fact they have very successfully begun to reverse the trend of diminishing numbers of hunters and anglers in States with these programs. At the same time, these programs generate cash and economic activity in rural economies by encouraging increased numbers of hunters, anglers, and others who enjoy wildlife-related activities to spend more of their outdoor recreation dollars in rural America.

Eighteen States are already using their own limited funding resources to finance very successful access programs. These programs have set the stage for even greater success in the future, but only if additional funding becomes available. When enacted into law, Open Fields will provide \$20 million per year in Commodity Credit Corporation funds over the next five years. These funds will be used to provide U.S. Department of Agriculture grants for States with recreational walk-in or access programs. It is our intent that access to all the land that property owners voluntarily enroll under this legislation will be available for, but not limited to, hunting and fishing activities.

I remind our colleagues that the Open Fields legislation offers benefits to many of their constituents, regardless of their State or district, or whether they represent urban or rural Americans. We all know that millions of city dwellers hunt and fish. Access to quality areas to hunt, fish, and enjoy other wildlife related activities within reasonable distances from urban areas is becoming dramatically reduced.

As we travel the rural areas of our States, Senator ROBERTS and I experience firsthand the tremendous need to bring additional income into small towns and communities in Kansas, North Dakota, and across rural America. As members of the Committee on Agriculture, we are constantly looking for alternatives to supplement traditional agricultural programs and improve the economic safety net for our farmers and ranchers that are not considered trade distorting. Open Fields is a program that can help achieve those objectives.

The positive impact of making private lands available to the hunting public is highly visible in Mr. Roberts' home State of Kansas and in my own State of North Dakota. According to data obtained from a 2001 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service study, Kansas and North Dakota have a total of 1,750,000 acres currently enrolled in state-run access programs. Furthermore, this study notes that hunting licenses sold in the State of Kansas increased from 175,000 in 1996 to 205,000 in 2001, a 22.9 percent increase. In North Dakota, hunting license sales increased from 118,000 in 1996 to 133,000 in 2001, a 12.7 percent increase.

During this same time period, the number of hunters nationwide decreased from 14 million to 13 million.