

build hydroelectric dams in order to generate electricity.

□ 2350

The limit has been the environmentalists' limit that we would hit there. We need to go back to nuclear and generate a lot more electricity with nuclear. There is a clean coal concept that can be used for baseline, coal-fired plants, and that can be used almost all over this country to produce a tremendous amount of electricity.

All those things need to happen, and as the President said in this chamber just the last day of January, that we need to expand the use of ethanol, and he is very credible when he says that, Mr. Speaker, because a fellow that comes from the oil patch, that is promoting ethanol and renewable fuels, is a person that you know believes in it.

In Iowa, and the congressional district that I have the privilege and honor represent, they will be at nine ethanol production facilities there by the end of this year, perhaps even one more. That will take us to the position where we are producing from corn all of the ethanol that we have the corn to supply. It means we can cannot use all of our corn for ethanol production. We can perhaps use 25 percent of our corn for ethanol production, and ethanol is, of course, going all over the country to be blended with gasoline.

Our markets in Iowa are voluntary. When people go in and pull out the pump and the nozzle and put it in their tank, they choose ethanol 81 percent of the time. It was 42 percent just a few years ago. So it has almost doubled, and that is a voluntary usage because people understand that it is economical, it is environmentally friendly, and it reduces our dependence on foreign oil.

So the President has advocated that within 25 years we reduce our dependence on foreign oil by 75 percent. I think that is a doable goal, especially with some of the technology that is out there, making ethanol out of cellulose. So that would be wood fiber and chips and even weeds and switch grass, and yet corn stalks and all of that kind cellulose that grows up out of the ground is all renewable. We can be energy independent if, in fact, we had to be. It would not take us very long to get there, Mr. Speaker.

We need an overall strategy to grow the size of the energy pie to change the proportions of the size of those pieces so that we use more of certain kinds of energy, and I will advocate, as I said, nuclear and coal and ethanol to be three of those that I would advocate we use a lot more of. We can do some things with solar panels. That is an emerging technology, but change the proportion of the size of the pieces of the energy pie so that we have a prudent, long-term policy that can reduce and, one day, eliminate our dependence on foreign oil.

It also includes not just drilling for oil and gas on the Outer Continental

Shelf, not just bringing a pipeline down from Alaska to deliver the natural gas from Alaska, but it also includes drilling for oil in ANWR. That stretch up there, Mr. Speaker, that is 19.6 million acres. Out of that we are going to tap into 2,000. Only 2,000 acres, .01 percent of that region, used to tap into the oil that we know is there. That could bring 1 million barrels or more of oil down to the lower 48 or actually down to Valdez and out on the tanker. That could happen in a very short period of time if we would just step up here on the floor of this Congress, Mr. Speaker, and have the people in the other body do the same thing. The President would sign the bill, and we would be one huge step closer to energy independence.

All of these things need to happen in a country that should be able to plan its future, in a country that should be able to debate its future and take action on the floor of this Congress.

We have stepped forward and taken on quite a task in this overall war on terror. This place called Iraq is not the war on terror. This is a battlefield in the overall global war on terror, but our military has stepped forward and done their job. We need to stand with them. We need to know and realize that we are in a time of war and that means that we need to tighten our belt. That requires sacrifice. That sacrifice needs to let us find the will in this Congress to move towards a balanced budget, a balanced budget that makes the Bush tax cuts permanent because that fixes this growth rate in place so it has a sense of permanency and a sense of predictability. We need to put those tax cuts in place, move towards a balanced budget, and provide a sense of financial security so that this continuity of this long period of 10 consecutive quarters of growth can go on another 10 consecutive quarters.

I would go further with the taxes, Mr. Speaker. Given the time that is allowed here tonight I will simply tie this back with the energy side of this. So, if good things are happening in the overall war on terror, if we control our spending on this budget, tighten our belt and if we sacrifice the way our military sacrifices, we can keep funds and resources going to them so they can do their job. If we provide for more energy, grow the size of the energy pie, we have laid out a destination for America's future that is an economic and a security destiny, and without going into the social side of this, the constitutional aspects of it, that is most of what we need, Mr. Speaker, to get this country where it needs to go.

So I want to thank the Speaker for the privilege to address this House of Representatives.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HINCHEY (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and February 15.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week.

Ms. WOOLSEY (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week.

Mr. CAMPBELL of California (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today and the balance of the week on account of the death of his father.

Mr. GIBBONS (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of travel delay.

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness.

Mr. WAMP (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. MCCARTHY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WYNN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. HERSETH, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEAL of Georgia, for 5 minutes, February 15.

Mr. NORWOOD, for 5 minutes, February 16.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, February 16.

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, today and February 15.

Mr. OSBORNE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DREIER, for 5 minutes, today and February 15 and 16.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and February 15 and 16.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, today and February 15.

Mr. FLAKE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, February 16.

Mr. KINGSTON, for 5 minutes, today.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House reports that on February 9, 2006, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 4636. To enact the technical and conforming amendments necessary to implement the Federal Deposit Insurance Reform Act of 2005, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, February 15, 2006, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6140. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Imazethapyr; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2005-0508; FRL-7755-8] received February 1, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6141. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Army, Case Number 02-06, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

6142. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Navy, Case Number 04-01, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

6143. A letter from the Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report on the amount of purchases from foreign entities for Fiscal Year 2005, pursuant to Public Law 104-201, section 827 (110 Stat. 2611); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6144. A letter from the Senior Vice President for Congressional Affairs, Export-Import Bank, transmitting the Bank's FY 2005 annual report for the Sub-Saharan Africa Initiative; to the Committee on Financial Services.

6145. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maine; Nitrogen Oxides Exemption Request for Northern Maine [EPA-R01-OAR-2005-ME-0007; A-1-FRL-8027-5] received February 1, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6146. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Wisconsin; General and Registration Permit Programs [EPA-R05-OAR-2005-WI-0003; FRL-8020-1] received February 1, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6147. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Final Rule Making Findings of Failure to Submit Required State Implementation Plans for Phase II of the NOx SIP Call [Docket No. OAR-2005-0154; FRL-8028-8] received February 1, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6148. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Interim Final Determination to Stay and/or Defer Sanctions, Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District [EPA-R09-OAR-2005-0557c; FRL-8024-9] received February 1, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6149. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Plywood and Composite Wood Products; List of Hazardous Air Pollutants, Lesser Quantity Designations, Source Category List [OAR-2003-0048; FRL-8028-9] (RIN: 2060-AN05) received February 1, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6150. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Protection of Stratospheric Ozone; The 2006 Critical Use of Exemption from the Phaseout of Methyl Bromide [FRL-8028-2] (RIN: 2060-AN18) received February 1, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6151. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Ventura County Air Pollution Control District, Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District [EPA-R09-OAR-2005-0557a; FRL-8025-2] received February 1, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6152. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11958, a copy of Transmittal No. 04-06 which informs of an intent to sign an Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Concerning Combating Terrorism Research and Development with Singapore, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

6153. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11958, a copy of Transmittal No. 02-06 which informs of an intent to sign an Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) regarding the Organizational Structure and Exploitation Systems (BICES) between the United States and Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey and the United Kingdom, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

6154. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11958, a copy of Transmittal No. 03-06 which informs of an intent to sign an Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Concerning Combating Terrorism Research and Development with Australia, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

6155. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11958, a copy of Transmittal No. 05-06 which informs of an intent to sign a Project Arrangement concerning the U.S./U.K. Missile Defense Situational Awareness Node, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

6156. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for International Security Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting a Report on Proposed Obligations for Weapons Destruction and Non-Proliferation in the Former Soviet Union and the Republic of Albania, pursuant to Public Law 104-106, section 1206(a) (110 Stat. 471); to the Committee on International Relations.

6157. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting intention to support a resolution in the United Nations Security Council to authorize maintaining the personnel ceiling of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) at its current level until after nationwide presidential and parliamentary elections, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 287(d) Public Law 109-108, section 4(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

6158. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on gifts given by the United States to foreign individuals for the period October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005, pursuant to Public Law 95-105; to the Committee on International Relations.

6159. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting consistent with the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-243), the Authorization for the Use of Force Against Iraq Resolution (Pub. L. 102-1), and in order to keep the Congress fully informed, a report prepared by the Department of State for the August 15, 2005 — October 15, 2005 reporting period including matters relating to post-liberation Iraq under Section 7 of the Iraq Liberation Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-338); to the Committee on International Relations.

6160. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Memorandum of Justification for the waiver of loan default assistance restrictions under Section 620(q) of the Foreign Assistance Act to support the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo; to the Committee on International Relations.

6161. A letter from the Office of the Independent Counsel, transmitting the 2005 annual report for the Office of Independent Counsel-Barrett, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 595(a)(2); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6162. A letter from the Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Title VI of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, the Commission's report on FY 2005 Competitive Sourcing Efforts; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6163. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Title VI of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, the Department's Report to Congress on FY 2005 Competitive Sourcing Efforts; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6164. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1, 2005, through September 30, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6165. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Title VI of