

Southern Illinois. I always tell the story about the 1990 amendments to the Clean Air Act where because of Federal regulation, in this one case, in this one case, 1,200 miners lost their jobs.

I was told by someone who was the business manager for the United Mine Workers of America in Southern Illinois that during 1990 he was responsible for 14,000 mine workers in Southern Illinois. After the amendments were passed, he then was reorganized into a three-State region to only bargain for 4,000 United Mine workers. 10,000 mine workers' jobs were lost.

That was just in the cap-and-trade clean air amendments 1990s, where we had technology to make the transformation. This carbon dioxide cap-and-tax provision, we do not have the technology available today to effect this change.

So this is what happened. This is actually a picture of mine workers who lost their jobs. This is the mine I was talking about, Peabody No. 10 in Kincaid, Illinois. The interesting thing about this mine, it is very, very efficient in that the mine was right across the street from the power plant, so you saved on the transportation costs, whether that be the trucks or that would be the rail applications. There was a little conveyor belt going across the road to the power plant. This mine was closed down. These miners lost their jobs.

Now, under the new regime of the President's bill that taxes too much, he proposes additional taxation of \$686 billion through a carbon tax. This carbon tax will be passed on to everybody who uses fossil fuels in America.

You might say, I don't want to use fossil fuels. It is like the story where the individual says I don't like coal, I don't like nuclear power, I don't like hydroelectric. I like electricity. The problem with this is 50 percent of all electricity, even the electricity that lights this Chamber, is produced by coal-based electricity generation. The power plant just down the road two blocks from here is a coal-fired power plant. Fifty percent.

If you put additional taxation on that fossil fuel, that cost will be passed on to the individuals and the consumers. This is the worst time to really attack our economy through additional taxation, because of the economic slowdown, the economic recession, the competitive nature of the world. If we not only put a challenge to our use of fossil fuels in this country, not only coal, natural gas as a fossil fuel, gasoline as a fossil fuel, estimations of the last cap-and-trade bills are 50 cents additional to the cost of a gallon of gas.

Where does that money go to when we collect it? There is an old story. When the bank robbers rob a bank and they get away to their hideaway and they put the loot on the table, what happens? That is when you have the fights break out. That is when one bad

guy shoots the other bad guy and says, I am taking all the money for myself.

What this cap-and-tax regime will do will allow bureaucrats, it will allow us in Washington, to decide how that money is going to be split up, and it will be folks here making that determination. Why do you think so many people are at the table? They are at the table because they want part of your tax dollars that you are going to pay through higher rates to us and they want to get benefited.

You can look across all the regimes that are at the table. They are at the table because they want part of that revenue stream. What this revenue stream will do is not only kill the fossil fuel of this industry, which is hundreds of thousands of jobs and low-cost power, it will make us not competitive with the developing nations who are using coal and having low cost power.

#### MOVING FORWARD TO A NEW ENERGY FUTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, last week I had two very exciting meetings with people who have some insights about how we can move forward to use a new energy future to really revive our economy, and I thought I would take a couple of moments to advise my colleagues about these meetings. I thought they would be interested in them.

First, I met some absolutely brilliant people up in Boston area at the MIT, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Energy Club. This is a club of graduate and post-graduate students who have come together to organize themselves to try to promote ideas about how to build a new, clean energy future for the country.

These are brilliant people, post-graduates in chemistry, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering. These are really some of the creme de la creme of our young geniuses coming up who can help build our new economy. It was fascinating to me, because these were people who were tremendously optimistic even in these tough times about the ability to grow the U.S. economy, if we will get serious about promoting the future of new energy technologies.

□ 1100

I am convinced after meeting these relatively young people that we've got a bright future in our economy if we can unleash these intellectual geniuses. They told me that they were waiting for a signal from Washington, DC, that we were really going to embrace these new technologies; and they told me about some of these new technologies that they're fascinated in. I thought I would share some of them today.

They told me about a technology company called Ramgen, a company out in my State of Washington, that

has an ability to compress carbon dioxide so that someday we might be able to burn coal in a way that carbon dioxide doesn't go into the air but we compress that carbon dioxide and put it under the ground permanently so it doesn't cause global warming. They're waiting for Congress to pass a bill that will essentially direct the economy in that direction. They told me it's very important to have a bill that will create a fund to be able to support the research so that these people at MIT can help develop this and various other technologies. The cap-and-trade bill, which I'll talk about a little later, is a bill that will do just that, to help that technology forward.

We talked about the Ausra Company, a company that just opened the first manufacturing plant in the United States, commercial plant, for concentrated solar energy, so you can concentrate the sun's rays and generate electricity. They are now hiring several hundred people in Nevada, building these new plants, so that we can convert the sun's energy directly to electricity, and they were very excited about that technology.

I met up there the leader of A123 Battery Company. At A123 Battery, they make lithium ion batteries that can power plug-in hybrid cars and ultimately all electric cars using lithium ion. The beauty of this, of course, is that if you use electricity, you don't have to import gasoline from Saudi Arabia, you don't have to wrap yourself around that national security threat, and you can use electricity rather than oil. But they told me they're waiting for a signal from Congress to move toward electricity in our cars. Now we started that in the stimulus bill to help them, but now we need to move forward to have a bill to essentially regulate carbon dioxide so we can have another signal to industry to start moving to electric cars.

We talked about a company called the Sapphire Energy Company. The Sapphire Energy Company just started construction of ponds—and this will sound like science fiction but it's real—ponds where you can grow algae and the algae takes the sun's energy and turns it into lipids and then you essentially press it and you get fuel that you make gasoline out of. So we can use algae to essentially eat carbon dioxide out of our coal-fired plants and then use it to make a liquid automobile fuel that's chemically indistinguishable from gasoline. Pretty exciting company.

We talked about the AltaRock Company. The AltaRock Company is a company, again up in the State of Washington, which is trying to commercialize what we call engineered geothermal, where you can poke a hole down in the Earth, you pump water down there, it collects to a 300-degree temperature, you bring it up, generate steam and make electricity. Again, zero CO<sub>2</sub>.

These companies are waiting for a signal from Congress, the cap-and-

trade bill, and we're going to try and get it through this year.

#### REGARDING THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET PROPOSAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) for 3 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in the midst of an enormous amount of national outrage. I sensed it yesterday when I was in Anderson, Indiana, meeting with my constituents, meeting with small business leaders at a forum. Now much in the media today is focused on the frustration over a large business, specifically AIG, that received tens of billions of dollars in taxpayer money and now has been busy paying bonuses with it to the tune of over \$150 million and has been passing out that money to foreign corporations. That outrage is very real and I agree with it. The American people are tired of bailouts. I voted against the Wall Street bailout last fall, defied a President of my own party, because I simply believe we can't borrow and spend and bail our way back to a growing America. And it seems that much of the public has now come to the conclusion that this notion that we can bail out every failing business in the country is a deeply flawed notion. But I also heard an enormous amount of outrage in my district yesterday about this administration's budget.

The truth is the more the American people look at the President's budget plan, the more they realize that it spends too much, it taxes too much, and it borrows too much, and we have to do better.

I heard yesterday from a constituent by the name of Ted Fiock, who runs and owns Anderson Tool and Engineering Company. He talked about the increasing cost in his business, saying, "The cost burden is just insane right now. We're not doing well. We're struggling. We're in a survival mode right now." You can imagine his frustration and even, I would perceive, outrage when I explained to him that 50 percent of the Americans who will be paying higher taxes under the President's budget are actually small business owners just like him. The President said it would just affect Americans who make more than \$250,000 a year, but according to the most reasonable estimates, more than 50 percent of the Americans that file taxes over that amount are actually small business owners just like Ted filing as individuals. Raising taxes on small businesses, especially during these difficult economic times, is not a prescription for recovery. It's a prescription for economic decline. I also shared with Ted and others the President's plan, the so-called cap-and-trade energy tax. Under the administration's budget, there would be a new energy tax that could cost every household, let alone every business, up to \$3,128 a year for using electricity, driving a car, relying on energy in any way.

The President's budget simply taxes too much. And as I explain the metes and bounds in this budget today, the outrage about AIG's bonuses, the outrage about bailouts has suddenly met its match. I think the more the American people look at this administration's budget, the more they know we can do better, and we must do better. It's time for this Congress to embrace the principles of fiscal restraint and policies that will get America growing again, and Republicans are prepared to bring those ideas forward.

#### CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) for 3 minutes.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, a little later today, I will bring another privileged resolution to the floor asking for the Ethics Committee to look into the relationship between earmarks and campaign contributions. This will be the fourth one that has been offered. Each time these have been tabled and we haven't instructed the Ethics Committee to look into this. I hope that that changes.

Several years ago, we had a scandal involving earmarks, the Jack Abramoff scandal. Mr. Abramoff now sits in Federal prison. Some staff members and lobbyists and others also were implicated in that scandal. The leadership at that time was slow to recognize the scandal that was there, and I would say today that the leadership is also slow to recognize what is going on here. There are investigations going on around us. The Department of Justice is investigating—we know this from various press reports—the relationship between earmarks and campaign contributions.

Let me just read a few of the whereas clauses from the resolution that will be introduced later today. This one is a little more specific. The first resolution that was introduced had to do just with earmarks and campaign contributions in general. The second one had to do with earmarks related to the PMA Group. The next one just with earmarks related to the PMA Group for FY09 defense spending. This one has to do specifically with the head of PMA, Mr. Magliocchetti, whom we were told had his home raided by the FBI a while ago. Keep in mind that the PMA Group was a lobbying firm, a powerhouse lobbying firm, that over a period of 8 years collected more than \$100 million in fees from its clients, mostly for seeking earmarks from this Congress. Yet when the news came that the FBI was investigating and had raided the office, that firm, that I believe brought in about \$17 million last year alone in revenue, imploded, within a week. By the end of this month it will be completely gone, dissolved. And when you read some of allegations that are going around in the press, you don't wonder why.

CQ Today reported recently that Mr. Magliocchetti and nine of his rel-

atives—two children, daughter-in-law, current wife, his ex-wife, ex-wife's parents, sister and brother-in-law—provided \$1.5 million in political contributions from 2000 to 2008. Now if you look at some of the occupations listed by some of those who were giving \$100,000 over just a couple of years—school teacher, police sergeant, homemaker—does that not raise somebody's antenna that something might be amiss here?

We can't simply let the Justice Department's investigation dictate what we do here in the House. We should move forward ourselves. We shouldn't say that whether or not you can be indicted or convicted should be the standard that we uphold here in the House to uphold the dignity and decorum of this body. Madam Speaker, this body, this Congress, deserves better than that. That's why I hope that we will actually ask this time the Ethics Committee to investigate this matter.

#### THE BUDGET TAXES TOO MUCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) for 3½ minutes.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I thank the Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk a little bit about the budget issues that are before us and about how we are spending too much, we're borrowing too much and we're taxing too much. Recently one of my constituents came up and she had a child in her arms. It was her 6-month-old grandchild. She looked at me and she said, Marsha, you know, it makes me really angry when you all spend money that I haven't made, but when Congress is spending money that this grandbaby has not made, it just absolutely infuriates me. It makes me want to come to Washington and knock on the doors of the Members of Congress and say, What are you doing to this child's future?

Madam Speaker, that is what our constituents are saying when they look at this budget proposal that contains the largest tax increase in history, \$1.4 trillion, over a 10-year period of time. Now some of my constituents have said, where do they get this money? Where does this come from and what are they taxing to come up with \$1.4 trillion? Well, I want to talk a second about the cap-and-tax proposal that the President and the administration has brought forward. I want to use a quote that the President made in an editorial board with the San Francisco Chronicle in January 2008. It said under my plan of a cap-and-trade system, electricity rates would necessarily skyrocket. That will cost money. That will pass the money on to consumers.

That was in January 2008. What we see is, yes, electricity rates will go up. Every time an individual flips on a light switch, every time they punch the brew button on their coffee maker, every time they turn on their computer, it is going to cost them more