

the President recently said that if this is not passed into law, then he will not have the revenue to foster or pay for the Big Government that he is trying to force down the throats of the American people. This is not about the environment. Mr. KING, you brought that out very clearly. This is about greater revenue. It is a about a tax, cap-and-tax. I call it "tax-and-cap" because tax is what this is all about.

And your chart right there brings out a very strong point. Even the President says that electricity rates will skyrocket. Every single energy source in this country will skyrocket. That means that everything is going to go up in price, food, medicine, health care, all goods and services are going to go up. Why? Because the leadership in this House, the leadership in the U.S. Senate, the administration, wants to continue down a road towards total government control of everything that people do. There is a word for that. It is called "socialism." And that is exactly what they are doing. They are driving a steamroller of socialism that is being forced down the throats of the American people. And it is going to strangle our economy. It is going to hurt the people that our Democratic colleagues say that they represent the most. Electricity costs and heating costs are going to affect the retirees, people on limited income and the poor people more than anybody else.

My good friend from Iowa made some excellent points. And I just want to reiterate what you said. It is going to cost the American people a tremendous amount of money. The American Association of Manufacturers has estimated that every single family in this country is going to pay \$3,128 more in taxes. Everybody is going to have that tax burden placed on them plus the increased cost of all goods and services. And it has to stop.

The American people can do something about it. They can tell their Members of Congress, We don't want this tax-and-cap bill to pass. And it is absolutely critical for the people all over this country to call their Congressman, call their Senators and say "no" to this crazy cap-and-trade policy that is being forced down their throats. And it has just got to stop because it is going to kill our economy. It is going to hurt everybody in this country. And I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. KING of Iowa. I thank the gentleman. And I regretfully yield back the balance of my nonexistent time.

#### THE GREENING OF OUR ENERGY THINKING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) is recognized for 10 minutes.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, we are at the threshold of energy policy that can transform not only our energy thinking but respond to the economic crises

that are gripping this Nation. With the leadership of a new administration, with a President who has expressed the boldness of a vision for energy generation, energy transmission and energy storage, an innovation economy sparked by that source of greening up of our energy thinking can be just what the doctor ordered in curing our economic ills and allowing us to go forward with a stronger sense of security, security that is expressed by our energy security, our job security, our economic security and certainly for those measures, our national security.

It is no wonder that our gluttonous dependency on a fossil-based economy has caused us to rely on importing, from some of the most troubled spots in the world, our energy supplies. These are countries that have unstable governments that have ruled the day for our economy.

And certainly when we look at the failed measures of the previous administration, the average household has been paying, or the average citizen has been paying \$1,100 more in energy costs because of the failure of that energy policy during the Bush-Cheney administration. So it is a challenge to us and a dictate to the American public to go forward with a new vision, a boldness of greening up our energy thinking so as to spark this innovation economy.

When we look at what can happen in this country, there are many promising statistics. We can understand that some 5 million jobs can be created in the clean energy economy if we were to enhance by 25 percent our renewable energies. And just for the electricity supplies we require and the transportation needs that we have, if we advance a 25 percent improvement by the year 2025, we could realize those 5 million additional jobs in the economy. And dollar for dollar, it is calculated that four times the job growth is realized in the clean energy economy than is realized in the dependency and the continuation of the oil and petroleum economy.

So those statistics speak nobly to the challenge that befalls us, that we need to move forward with a new order of thinking, that we can, as we enhance our energy security, grow American jobs that produce American power for America's energy needs.

Now that is a strengthening of our economy in a way that will put new jobs, job opportunities, on to the grid that have not previously been there. It allows us to cover the array of job opportunities from the trades that are involved on over to the engineering, the inventor, the innovator types that can produce the prototypes and then pulling them into the manufacturing and commercial sectors of emerging technologies that will allow us to very cleverly encourage new generation formats, new storage formats and new transmission opportunities in the realm of energy.

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The transitioning will allow us to impact industries from manufacturing to engineering to all sorts of lab opportunities for our given communities.

When we look at situations in New York State alone, we are looking at some 132,000 or so jobs that could be created in a clean energy opportunity in New York State. Obviously with an unemployment rate that is above 8 percent in New York State, that would be a welcomed bit of opportunity.

We need to simply look at the practicality of some of the experiences out there that have enabled us to move forward, to move forward in a way that allows us to utilize the strength of our intellect as a Nation and use that brain trust and invest in our future.

Recently when we were visiting with a former energy minister for the country of Denmark, he had visited with the SEEC caucus that has been formed here in Congress of which I serve as Chair, the Sustainable Energy and Environment Caucus has entertained guests who will share with us their ideas and their success stories.

Denmark has done well by changing its format of energy design. It was important to note that they have very boldly stepped forward and invested with some ideas that actually came from the United States and perhaps even patents that originated here. So it behooves us to move forward and utilize this American think tank and put it to work here in our country to meet our energy needs. While I was at NYSERDA where I served as president and CEO of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, we were able to advance several new ideas: kinetic hydro that allowed us to utilize the turbulence of the East River along the Manhattan shoreline, and just utilizing that turbulence allowed us to do subwater surface energy creation, energy generation simply by the motion of the water.

We have several opportunities with the many bodies of water in New York State, and with turbulent bodies as such, to perhaps achieve as much as 1,000 to 1,100 megawatts worth of power.

The demonstration project, funded through the assistance of NYSERDA, made modifications possible through Denver, through the Department of Energy labs, and we have reformulated the design of the energy turbine blades. We have recalculated the assembly, the core assembly of such a turbine, and we are able to go through with these improvements that now offer great hope for the kinetic opportunities.

That is just one sampling of cutting-edge technology, emerging technologies that can strengthen our American economy and our energy consumers' future here in this country.

I think also of the geothermal applications that we have made with campuses like the Culinary Institute of America where the geothermal applications are used now to heat and cool six

new dormitory areas, lodges as they are referred to, at the CIA. This is another practical application that allows us to create a sustainable future, one that is working in a benign fashion with the environment and utilizing the resources of our air, our water, and our soil to respond to our energy needs.

This is the boldness of vision that has been imparted by President Obama and his administration. It is the boldness of vision embraced by Speaker PELOSI in the House, and other leaders; our Energy and Commerce Chair, HENRY WAXMAN; and BARTON GORDON of Science and Technology, to name just a few. But as we go forward, we will continue to advance this progressive order of policies and the resources required to advance the development that we require.

I think it is important for us as a society to invest well beyond the prototype. The prototype is the idea that comes to life in the research labs across the country, but that is not where we should end with the story. We need to deploy that magic into the manufacturing and commercial sectors so we can take full advantage of the earlier investments into prototypes.

Just this week I was able, Mr. Speaker, to travel to the GE Research and Development Center in my district. They announced their plans for new battery technology, battery technology that will enable us to add to the diversity of battery types of the future. There are efforts within the stimulus package advanced by the White House and approved by the House and the Senate on the Hill that was recently signed into law as the Recovery Act for America that will invest billions of dollars into cutting-edge thinking in battery application. It was at GE that they announced this formulation of a sodium chloride and nickel mix that allows for us to deal with heavy-duty equipment, the more stressful vehicular applications. It also holds promise for energy generation and energy storage, very key and critical to the intermittent nature of several of our renewable sources.

So with all of that being said, there are samplings out there that today are speaking to the progress that can be made. And it is that source of job creation that is inspired by the efforts made by researchers and engineers and inventors and innovators that then allow for trade application in the practical applications as we retrofit our schools, our businesses, and our homes in a way that allows us to meet our energy needs.

So with all of that, I call upon this House to continue to move forward and advance the agenda of green energy policy that will transform our economy, strengthen our job market, and allow for us to have a stronger sense of energy security and national security.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to share my thoughts.

#### CLEAN ENERGY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. HODES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HODES. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Mr. TONKO, and I join him in voicing my support for President Obama's plan to limit dangerous carbon emissions, put us on a path to energy security, and create millions of American clean energy jobs. Right now Americans realize that our American energy policy is not working. The last administration gave billions of dollars in tax subsidies to oil companies despite the fact that they were earning record profits, and despite their willingness to gouge the American people.

We clearly need a new energy policy that invests in renewable energy that will be cheaper for American families and will be homegrown, American energy that will create jobs and lead the world in a 21st century energy economy.

Right now we are facing the most severe economic crisis in a generation, the most severe economic crisis since the Great Depression; and at the same time, our scientists are clearly telling us that our inaction is threatening the planet.

Fortunately, by Congress taking one single action and passing what will come to the floor as climate legislation, we will take a giant leap towards mending both of our problems. The President has laid out an ambitious agenda, recognizing that as Americans we can do great things when we come together and work together for the common good. The President has presented us with a clean energy jobs plan that will: create new, 21st century American jobs throughout the product-supply chain; protect existing jobs; reduce our dependence on foreign oil; save money on energy costs for American taxpayers in the long run; reduce carbon pollution, and, with it, combat the dangerous effects of climate change.

By forcing those who have long polluted our air and water for free to finally pay for their carbon pollution, we will begin to shift away from our dependence on dirty, outdated, obsolete energy technology.

Instead, we will provide incentives for American business. We are going to unleash the American entrepreneurial spirit and create clean energy jobs. We will lead the world in technology and manufacturing that will drive a new, much more prosperous energy economy.

Think of the cost savings. This plan to shift American energy production to domestic alternative sources like solar and wind and biomass, which means wood in New Hampshire where I come from, will be cheaper and cleaner and will save Americans billions of dollars in the long run.

By forcing our Nation to tackle climate change and develop new energy,

the plan will create millions of new jobs and whole new industries here in the United States, employing everyone from construction workers to secretaries to salespeople to engineers. It will open new markets for us. Just imagine what it is like if we can become the world leaders in renewable and alternative energy. Think of the products and services we can sell around the globe and the goodwill we will get.

Inaction is no longer an option. Doing nothing about climate change will cost exponentially more than the President's plan. One respected study on this says that inaction could end up costing between 5 and 20 percent of the total world GDP. We must act.

Now, my friends on the other side of the aisle are either scared of change, pessimistic about the American entrepreneurial spirit, or are denying the scientific consensus because they rely on campaign funds from oil and coal interests. The truth remains, we must act.

President Obama's plan provides the support and incentives needed to help the American can-do spirit of innovation and creativity to build the new clean technologies of the future.

Just as we led the world in developing the automobile and the computer, we will once again lead the world in developing new, cheaper, cleaner technologies to lead the world for the 21st century. In addition, we will provide lower-income Americans with a clean energy tax credit to assist them in this transition to a prosperous new clean energy economy.

I have proposed we have a commission to make sure that Congress knows the impact on small businesses and low- and moderate-income folks of the climate change legislation that we are going to pass.

We are already feeling the effects around this country of a changing climate. We ignored the warnings of the experts of the risks for far too long. We have learned the dangers, and the costs are mounting to clean up the mess after the crisis has hit. We need to act as good stewards of the Earth. The American people are trusting us to act to protect our children and our grandchildren and to be stewards of the public trust. We need to remember that there will be tremendous unsustainable economic costs of dealing with the impacts of climate change once they have occurred because Mother Nature doesn't do bailouts.

So let me conclude by rejecting the charge of those who would defend the polluters and put our kids at risk. They are simply wrong. President Obama's clean energy plan is the opposite of a tax increase. It is regulating polluters to protect our country, protect our environment, create jobs, invest in American business, and save American families money via a direct tax credit and increased energy efficiency.