

that we have take up climate change right now, because Copenhagen is coming up. We have to address climate change. My view is we passed an energy bill 6 months ago, in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee that does exactly what you would do to address climate change. Including maximizing renewable energy and building the transmission to move the energy from places where it is produced to the load centers. The bill passed by the Senate Energy Committee also includes increasing building efficiency, which is the lowest hanging fruit. This legislation also includes a renewable electricity standard, which will be the first time in the history of this country that we will say that 15 percent of all electricity must come from renewable sources. I want that to be increased to 20 percent. The Senate Energy Committee's bill, in my judgment, should be brought to the floor ahead of climate change. You should take care of the policy changes that move you in the right direction first, and then bring climate change to the floor of the Senate and deal with the timetables.

Many of my colleagues feel that is an inappropriate approach. I think it is exactly what we should do. In my judgment, I don't think we are going to do climate change on the floor between now and the end of the year. If we don't get to climate change this year, nor bring the Senate Energy Committee bill to the floor, it means that we turned the corner this year without considering climate change legislation or the Senate Energy Committee's bill. That doesn't make sense to me. I will speak to that later. My colleagues are waiting to speak, so I will speak about that later.

I think, in the context of what is important, and how we should proceed, for me, with respect to energy and climate change. It is not that I oppose climate change legislation, although I do oppose the "trade" portion of cap and trade. I have no intention of creating a \$1 trillion securities trading market on Wall Street, to have them trade on Monday and Tuesday with investment speculators, so we can find out the cost of our electricity on Thursday and Friday. I have very little confidence in the creation of a market to trade carbon securities. I believe there are other ways to do it.

It is not that I am opposed to climate change legislation, if it is structured properly. I think something is happening to our climate. We ought to take no-regret steps to address climate change. Senator BINGAMAN and I along with others have written an energy bill that ought to come before climate change legislation, that will advance our country's interests in addressing the policies needed to do to deal with climate change.

I will speak about energy at another time at greater length. Those represent some of my thoughts about the agenda. Again, on health care, I think a lot of people will come to the floor on health

care, with a very open notion about wanting to vote on a lot of amendments. At the end of the day, saying: Is this something that advances our country's interests or doesn't it? I have not made that judgment at this point on health care. I will be a part of the people who make amendments. Then I will make a judgment. I will measure it two ways: Does this put the brakes on health care costs and is it paid for? Second, does it extend coverage to those folks who don't have coverage because they cannot afford it? If we do that, we will have done something good for the country. If not, there will be great difficulty in passing it on the floor of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware is recognized.

LEADING THE WAY ON GREEN JOBS

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, my home State of Delaware has been the recipient of some good news this week and so I thought this would be a good time to come to the floor and discuss how Delaware is leading the way in responding to the challenge of climate change and creating green jobs.

This is a critical time in our history. At stake are the jobs and economic future of our children and grandchildren. Unfortunately, as we emerge from this economic crisis, many of the jobs we have lost will not return. To make a full recovery, we need to create the next generation of jobs. I believe that the jobs leading the way will be the clean and green energy industries of tomorrow.

I am proud to say that my home State of Delaware is already leading the way.

Like many States, my State once had a proud record of automobile manufacturing. All of my colleagues know, though, that the recent economic downturn has hit already downtrodden auto companies especially hard, and, in recent months, our two auto plants were closed.

This is not simply a question of economics.

For the families who saw paychecks end and the dignity of work disappear, these closures were a real personal tragedy.

The men and women who worked in our auto plants are some of the most dedicated, capable workers I have ever met. They embraced an American dream—the chance to work hard at a decent job and provide for a family. And then, in the midst of an economic crisis not seen in decades, they found themselves looking to start over.

They did their job. They held up their side of the bargain. They went to work everyday and worked hard at their job—and in the process made our GM plant and our Chrysler plant two of the most productive and efficient plants around.

That is why we from Delaware have been fighting to help them land on

their feet. We know the potential of these trained, hard-working, eager employees, and we know the decency of these families.

Just recently, I was able to join Vice President BIDEN, Delaware Governor Markell, and our congressional delegation in announcing that Fisker Automotive will begin building plug-in hybrids at the old General Motors Boxwood Road plant.

In a few years time, we expect that Fisker will be building cars that get more than 100 miles per gallon—and building as many as 100,000 of them per year. This will mean nearly 1,500 permanent manufacturing jobs.

Before we get there, there will be hundreds or thousands of good construction jobs created by revamping and renovating the plant to produce these state-of-the-art vehicles.

But this happy tale is not possible without crucial support. Fisker was awarded a loan by the Department of Energy, part of a program designed to jump start the production of advanced vehicles.

At the same time, Governor Jack Markell has worked hard to keep the plant in condition to be retooled, and to convince Fisker that Delaware offers the ideal market to begin building tomorrow's cars.

And I believe the clincher was the highly trained workforce we had to offer.

In fact, Fisker will be hiring many of the GM employees to work back in their old building—to work at building a state-of-the-art advanced car.

At the same time, the University of Delaware has announced a plan to buy the old Chrysler Newark plant and convert it to an advanced research facility. These 272 acres adjacent to the campus are truly, as University of Delaware president Patrick Harker has said, a "once in a lifetime opportunity."

And the university has indicated that much of this research and development to be carried out there will be toward the energy technologies we will need to combat climate change and to compete in tomorrow's economy.

In fact, the university is already a leader in any of these fields. It is a recognized center of excellence for solar power research and education, as designated by the Department of Energy, and a center of excellence for composite materials as well.

Just this week, the university was awarded nearly \$4.5 million for research into magnetic materials from a new program called ARPA-E.

The Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy has a mission, "to develop nimble, creative, and inventive approaches to transform the global energy landscape while advancing America's technology leadership."

The research the University of Delaware is doing could greatly increase the efficiency of electric motors—for electric and hybrid vehicles and for wind turbines alike. At the same time,

it could drastically reduce our imports of rare Earth minerals that often come from the darkest corners of our world.

At the same time, DuPont was winning \$9 million from ARPA-E for its research into seaweed-based biobutanol.

What is biobutanol, my colleagues may ask. The answer is that biobutanol is an advanced fuel designed for use in place of gasoline.

We have heard a lot about ethanol and how it can transform our energy landscape and it will play a very significant role—and already does.

But it is not flawless. It tends to be corrosive, meaning that we cannot use our existing pipeline infrastructure and that we must retrofit our vehicles.

At the same time, it has a lower energy density than gasoline—in other words, fewer miles per gallon.

Biobutanol may very well have fixed those problems. It has nearly the energy density of gasoline and is much less corrosive than ethanol. And now, thanks to research from DuPont and others, we are learning how to make it from seaweed.

Imagine a scalable source of biomass—solar-powered, low-carbon bioenergy—that does not take up existing arable land or demand potable water.

Imagine a fuel built from that source that operates like conventional gasoline.

Wouldn't that be a big step forward for addressing our climate challenges and for ensuring that tomorrow's vehicles will be powered by American ideas?

And DuPont is leading in several other fields. It is an innovator in thin-film solar panels, cellulosic ethanol, and fuel cells.

Across town, W.L. Gore, whom we all know for the miracle fabric Gore-Tex, is a market leader in the membranes essential for fuel cells.

If we hope to move someday to a hydrogen vehicle, and I do, we will need their expertise and excellence.

Perhaps the most significant renewable energy project underway in Delaware, however, is actually happening just outside of Delaware. It is happening in our ocean.

A company called Bluewater Wind is leading the way in developing offshore wind power in the United States.

In countries like Denmark and the United Kingdom, they have already recognized that the abundant ocean breezes provide a vast, constant, renewable source of electricity. It is time for us to catch up.

In fact, the Delaware offshore wind park will be larger than all offshore wind farms currently in existence, although other large farms are being planned and built in other countries.

What it will be is America's first.

In fact, Delaware yesterday hosted the Nation's first Federal offshore renewable energy task force meeting.

When the Department of Energy has concluded that offshore wind can meet 70 percent of all domestic electricity needs, how can we afford to ignore this resource?

And when nations around the world have wind, waves, and electricity demand, shouldn't we try to claim the leadership position in this technology?

That is why I am glad that the Federal Government, by providing the right incentives for wind power, and the State of Delaware, by working with Bluewater to ensure that there will be demand for that power, have convinced Bluewater Wind that Delaware is the place to start.

Mr. President, I could name hundreds of other areas where Delaware and Delawareans are leading the way in creating tomorrow's jobs.

We are installing combined heat and power projects to increase the efficiency of a chemical factory and of a community college. Our port is aiming to revamp its infrastructure to take advantage of green technologies that will make it cleaner and cheaper to operate.

We have set up an innovative new financing mechanism, the Sustainable Energy Utility, that will help get clean technologies through the so-called "valley of death." Even our schools are getting in on the act, installing solar panels on gymnasium rooftops.

We have small start up companies that are leading the way on a whole host of technologies, from less toxic disinfectants to safety reflectors, windmills and biofuels to recycling old carpet.

Companies like ILC Dover, that manufacture components of space suits, are leading the way in developing advanced materials, while CMI Electric, a solar panel seller and installer, has a banner on its Web site that says "We are hiring apply here." We need more of those five words.

I congratulate the leaders of my State, in industry and government, in academia and private life, for recognizing that the future of our economy and, thus, the legacy we leave future generations depends on leading the way on green technologies and in green industries.

GOLDSTONE REPORT

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, my colleague in the New York State Assembly, Alec Brook-Krasny, wrote two letters regarding the United Nations fact finding mission led by Justice Richard Goldstone, the Goldstone Report. Assembly Member Brook-Krasny represents the significant Russian speaking community of New York. He voiced the concerns of our constituents in writing to the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Lavrov to raise concerns about Russia's vote in favor of the recommendations in the Goldstone Report. Likewise, he represented the community's views in voicing appreciation of Ukraine's vote along with the United States against adoption of the report's recommendations.

I commend Assembly Member Brook-Krasny for his leadership on this issue. I and a bipartisan group of 31 other

Senators sent a letter of concern about the bias and flaws in the original mandate and ultimate recommendations of the Goldstone Report. We commended the State Department's leadership on this issue. As the report moves forward for consideration by the United Nations General Assembly, I believe it is important that the United States continue to do what it can to ensure that the Goldstone Report is not used unfairly and cynically to condemn Israel without looking at all of the facts and events leading to the conflict.

I ask unanimous consent that the attached letters from New York State Assembly Member Alec Brook-Krasny to Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Lavrov and Ukrainian Minister of Foreign Affairs Poroshenko, respectively, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THE ASSEMBLY, STATE OF NEW YORK,

Albany, NY, October 23, 2009.

H.E. SERGEY LAVROV,

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Russian Federation, Moscow.

DEAR MINISTER LAVROV: First, I would like to note that although foreign relations is not a part of my job description as a member of the New York State Assembly, I found it impossible to ignore an event that has seriously concerned more than ten thousand of my constituents—natives of the former USSR.

I write to you in regards to the recent vote at the United Nations Human Rights Council. Russia has voted in favor of endorsing the conclusions of former South African Judge Richard Goldstone's commission. The report states that antiterrorist operations in Gaza in January 2009 by Israel should be considered as war crimes and deliberate destruction of civilian population. The Goldstone Report mentions some anonymous armed groups, but it says nothing about eight years of the daily firing of rockets at civilians in the south of Israel by Hamas and other terrorists.

I consider the decision of the Russian Government to endorse the Goldstone Report at the UN Human Rights Council deeply troubling. This decision is directed not only against Israel; it significantly reduces Israel's ability to protect its citizens, including the thousands of Russian citizens living today in Israel.

Support of Goldstone's report by the Human Rights Council has surprised and aggravated many people, including one of founders of Human Rights Watch, Robert Bernstein. On October 19, 2009, New York Times published his article in which he condemned this one-sided report. Even Richard Goldstone himself, in a recent interview with the Swiss newspaper *Le Temps*, has recognized that in his report "there is no phrase with condemnation of Hamas".

The decision of the UN Human Rights Council will have a negative effect on the continuation and development of the peace process in the Middle East. In the resolution approved by 25 out of 47 members of Human Rights Council, there is no mention of the criminal and terrorist characteristics of Hamas activity. In addition, nothing is mentioned about the long-term bombardments of Sderot and other cities of Israel from Gaza prior to the IDF operation. During eight years of incessant rocket bombardments of Israeli territory, the United Nations kept silent and never adopted a resolution protecting Israeli civilians. When Israel finally