

to help fix its troubled nuclear fleet and prepare the company for deregulation. He shepherded the merger of Unicom and PECO Energy and has led the combined company, Exelon, since its formation in 2000. The Unicom-PECO merger is widely regarded as the most successful merger in the industry's history. The combined company serves 5.4 million customers and operates the largest fleet of nuclear power plants in the country.

In both 2008 and 2009, Institutional Investor named Rowe the best electric utility CEO in America. He has also received the Edison Electric Institute Distinguished Leadership Award, Keystone Center Leadership in Industry Award, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce Burnham Award for Business and Civic Leadership, induction into the Chicago Business Hall of Fame, University of Arizona Eller College of Management Executive of the Year Award and the Union League of Philadelphia Founder's Award for Business Leadership.

In the 14 years of John Rowe's leadership, Exelon has been named by *Forbes* as one of "America's Best Companies," a "Global 2000 Company," and "Best Managed Utility Company" to *Fortune's* list of the "World's Most Admired Companies," one of *BusinessWeek's* "Top 50" companies, and "Utility of the Year" by *Electric Light and Power*.

Mr. Rowe served as chairman of the Nuclear Energy Institute, the Edison Electric Institute (EII), the Commercial Club of Chicago, and the Massachusetts Business Roundtable.

Rowe and his management team succeeded in turning around the ComEd nuclear fleet—increasing the capacity factor from less than 50% in 1997 to more than 92% in every year since 2000 and average refueling outage days were reduced by half. Exelon today is the largest and widely regarded as the best nuclear plant fleet in the U.S.

Responding to massive reliability issues in ComEd's service territory in 1998 and 1999, Rowe spearheaded the effort to improve system reliability that has helped reduce the frequency and duration of customer outages by 20% since 2001. ComEd has spent more than \$5 billion on improving the system since 1998. ComEd now performs in the top quartile of its peer companies for reliability.

Under Rowe's leadership, PECO has been an industry leader in reliability performance, moving from the top quartile to top decile in infrastructure modernization and the use of equipment to eliminate and reduce the length of outages for customers.

Throughout his career, John has been a leading voice on energy and environmental policy delivering policy addresses and testifying before Congress, the Federal Energy Regulation Commission, state regulators and other. He was a pioneer on industry efforts for utility restructuring and a fierce advocate for environmental stewardship and diversity.

Perhaps more than any other CEO, Rowe has made environmental stewardship a hallmark of his tenure at each of his companies. While at CMP, he refocused its energy procurement strategy to conservation, energy efficiency and cogeneration.

John and his wife Jeanne are committed participants in civic and cultural activities. They are committed to a wide variety of civic activities with a focus on education and diversity.

The Rowes have established the Rowe Family Charitable Trust. Over the past dec-

ade, the Rowes and the family Trust have contributed more than \$19.7 million to organizations including the University of Wisconsin, the Illinois Institute of Technology, the Chicago History Museum, the Field Museum, Misericordia, the Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Metropolitan Family Services and Northwestern Hospital.

The Rowes are particularly proud of their substantial commitment to founding the Rowe-Clark Math and Science Academy, and is a Noble Street operated charter school and the Rowe Elementary School, a Northwestern University Settlement Association operated charter school. In addition, John Rowe serves as Chairman of New Schools Chicago, an organization that promotes and funds Charter Schools in the City of Chicago.

Rowe also serves as Chairman of the board of trustees of the Illinois Institute of Technology and as President of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation. He is a Vice Chairman of the Field Museum and has previously served as Chairman of the Commercial Club of Chicago and its Civic Committee and as Chairman of the board of the Chicago History Museum. While CEO of CMP, Rowe served as the Chairman of the Fort Western Museum capital campaign. At NEES, Rowe served as President of the USS Constitution Museum, Chairman of the Mechanics Hall capital campaign, a member of the board of the Massachusetts Natural Conservancy and on the board of Trustees at Bryant University.

Under Rowe's leadership and strong belief that utilities can and must have a commitment to their communities, Exelon has become a major part of the social fabric of the communities it serves. Exelon companies granted over \$270 million to non-profit organizations serving our communities over the last eleven years including a \$70 million donation to fund the Exelon Foundation.

Since the program's inception in late 2005 Exelon employees have tracked over 318,000 hours of community service. Exelon employees serve on over 350 non-profit boards across the service area, making an impact at the community level.

In recognition of Rowe's dedication to the community he has received the Civic Federation of Chicago's Gage Award for Outstanding Civic Leadership, the Citizen of the Year award from the City Club of Chicago, and the Heart of Mercy Award from Misericordia. Under his leadership, Volunteer Match has recognized Exelon as the Corporate Volunteer Program of the Year. Exelon has also received the Ron Brown Award for Corporate Leadership and was named to Corporate Responsibility Magazine's Best Corporate Citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I have come to know John Rowe over my tenure in Congress and I can say that his impact on the energy industry will be long felt by both policy makers and Exelon's customers. I wish him and his family well in their future endeavors.

DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to a very special day in our country. Yesterday marked the

seventh anniversary of Down Syndrome Awareness Day.

There are over 400,000 people living in the United States with Down syndrome. This equates to one out of every 700 new babies born in America.

Many of us personally know friends and loved ones with Down syndrome. Those with Down syndrome lead active and productive lives, attend school and work, participate in decisions that affect them, and contribute to society in so many wonderful ways. That's why I am a proud supporter of the Achieving a Better Life Experience Act, the ABLE Act, and I will continue to do my part to spread the word about this and other important legislation that will help those with Down syndrome have the tools to succeed.

Please help me celebrate the importance of Down Syndrome Awareness Day, and let's join together to champion every individual in this country, especially those with Down syndrome.

□ 1320

JUST SAY "NO"

(Mr. GOHMERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, we've just had a vote on H.R. 5, something very important. It's one of the horrible parts of the ObamaCare bill that we would have a board that would dictate to people what they could or could not have in the way of treatment or care.

The Federal Government has no business getting between people and their doctor. They have no business taking over health care, because if the Federal Government has the right to take over people's health care, then they'll have the duty to tell people how to live, what they can eat, what they must do.

But I had to vote "no" on this bill for this reason: in order to pay for this bill, under our rules, they added a provision that has the Congress dictating to every State in the country what their State med-mal tort laws have to be.

In Texas, we did tort reform, and we have doctors coming back. Some say, well, LOUIE, other States don't have it. That's fine. It's their right. Their doctors can come to Texas.

But when Congress wants to usurp State law, I have to say, "No."

THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as the 2-year anniversary of the President's so-called Affordable Care Act approaches, we're reminded of the unkept promises. It almost seems like yesterday when we heard the line, "We have to pass the bill so we can find out what's in it." That prediction

today stands as one of the few justifications for passage of the law to still hold much truth or credibility.

Then supporters said it wouldn't cost a dime; yet last week, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office stated they now expect the law to cost \$1.76 trillion over 10 years. That's nearly double the \$940 billion originally claimed.

Supporters said it would bring down costs; yet these new mandates have helped result in premium increases of up to 9 percent in my home State of Pennsylvania.

Today we remain committed to repealing and replacing this costly and dangerous law, piece by piece, if necessary. We take a great step today by repealing a provision that would otherwise cede the responsibility of Congress to an unelected and unaccountable Medicare rationing board. This measure is yet another facet of that commitment.

THE PRESIDENT NEEDS TO GET WITH THE PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, last week President Obama was in an oilfield in New Mexico, and the President said:

Under my administration, America is producing more oil today than at any time in the last 8 years. That's a fact. That is a fact.

He went on to say:

You have my word that we will keep drilling everywhere we can, and we'll do it while protecting the health and safety of the American people.

And he said:

A recent independent analysis showed that over the last 36 years, there's been no connection between the amount of oil that we drill in this country and the price of gasoline.

"There's no connection," he went on to say. And then the President added:

Even if we drilled every square inch of this country, we'd still only have 2, 3, or 4 percent of the world's known oil reserves.

That's just not true. It's just simply not true. Today, on television, the former president of Shell Oil, John Hofmeister, said—and he ought to know, he was in the oil business. He says that there is a trillion—a trillion, get that; not a billion, but a trillion-plus barrels of oil in America, more oil than there is in Saudi Arabia, and it's not counted by the President, and he's misleading the American people.

The reason he said that is because when the President talked about the increase in oil production, he was talking about the increase in oil production on private land outside the Federal Government's grip.

When you talk about the Federal lands, where we know there's tons of oil, oil production fell by 11 percent

last year. It went down. So we're not drilling for that oil. We're not drilling off the Continental Shelf. We're not drilling in the Gulf of Mexico. We're not drilling in Alaska and the ANWR. We're not using coal oil shale for oil.

And so we could have another trillion barrels of oil, much more than we'll ever need, more than in Saudi Arabia, if we just did what the President says that we're already doing. But we're not doing it.

I'm going to be down here on the floor next week, and I'm going to show that the applications for permits to drill in this country have gone down, gone down by 36 percent since President Obama took office in 2008. So he says we're drilling everywhere. The permits that have been requested by the oil companies and those who will produce gasoline in this country have gone down by 36 percent since the President took office.

Now, let me just end up by saying this: the price of gasoline, from 2000 to 2009, was an average of \$2.09 a gallon. The average retail price of gasoline when President Obama took office was \$1.85 a gallon. And the average price of gasoline today is \$3.88 a gallon, and everybody in America knows that. That's an increase of 86 percent.

So when the President goes on these trips around the country to make statements to the American people about the great things they're doing for energy production in this country, he should get his facts correct. Either he's misleading us intentionally or somebody's giving him the wrong information. But we have an abundance of energy in this country that's not being tapped.

I have no problem with us looking at alternative energy sources like solar, wind, geothermal, all those things, nuclear, but those things are going to take a long time, and we're still going to have to depend on oil and fossil fuels for many years to come. And the President needs to tell the truth and get with the program.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, let me just say, if I may, that I try my best not to direct any comments to the President. When I speak on the floor, I usually say, "If I were talking to the President." So I always qualify that.

Thank you very much. With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

THE 21ST CENTURY BATTLEFIELD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WEST) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. WEST. Mr. Speaker, throughout the history of the world, there has al-

ways been conflict between nations and among people. Wars have been fought to conquer land. Wars have been fought to acquire resources. Wars have been fought to spread ideas.

What is constant is that with each succeeding battle, both the tools and the techniques of warfare have progressed. From the earliest days of using rocks and sticks to the advancement of bows and arrows to flintlock and then automatic weapons, to TNT, atomic and nuclear bombs, man has continued to find ways, new ways of inflicting greater destruction on each other.

My father served in World War II. My older brother served in Vietnam. I, myself, served in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom, and my nephew continues to serve in the United States Army and has already been deployed to Afghanistan twice.

The only thing we know for sure is that the enemies my nephew has faced and will face in the future are altogether different from the enemy my father found in Europe and my brother found in Southeast Asia. Unlike any conflict this Nation has ever undertaken, from Lexington and Concord to Gettysburg and Antietam, from Belleau Wood and the Marne to Normandy and Iwo Jima, from the Chosin Reservoir to Khe Sanh, to the Persian Gulf, this 21st century battlefield is not defined by columns, fronts, uniforms, or borders but, rather, about one ideology against another.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I want to speak about this 21st century battlefield, one that is vastly different from any we have faced before. If we are not as prepared to fight in this new virtual environment as we would be to fight in unfamiliar physical surroundings, it will be just as likely to effect our downfall as the jungles in Indochina were to the colonial French troops.

□ 1330

Mr. Speaker, it is clear the United States Congress, the media, and Americans are truly focused on the dire economic situation here at home, and I share those concerns.

I also recognize the importance of not turning our backs on the principal obligation vested in us as elected leaders to protect and defend the United States of America against enemies, foreign and domestic.

The wars that my father and brother fought in and the Cold War we were engaged in when we first put on those uniforms 30 years ago, all of them were clearly defined. We knew our enemy. We knew his tactics. We knew his weapons and the uniform he wore. We even, at times, Mr. Speaker, laid down our arms temporarily to observe religious holidays like Christmas and Tet. But with the advent of the 21st century battlefield, that paradigm no longer exists. If we are going to achieve our objectives, we must be ready to adapt to changing circumstances. We cannot