

SALUTING ISSUES THAT ARE IMPORTANT DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Black History Month. The month of February is the time that we spend on issues and icons and heroes and sheroes that have contributed to the history of America and to the African-American community.

Throughout this month, I will talk about great heroes and sheroes, but at the same time, I will raise topical issues that are very important to us.

I will first acknowledge the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, an enormously important legislative fix on the criminal justice system that all of America rallied around, thousands and thousands, maybe millions marched, because we came together as a Nation to be able to address the fairness in that system. That means that we were against the choke hold being a part of the system of law enforcement; no-knock not being a part of law enforcement; providing more funding to ensure that there was training and professional development to our law enforcement community; and to instruct our communities as well to be better.

At the same time, we have a stop human trafficking bill at school zones because human trafficking impacts the African-American community.

These are issues that affect all of us, but I want them to be noted this month as we work together during Black History Month.

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DELTA SIGMA THETA INSPIRES POSITIVE CHANGE

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

Mr. THANEDAR. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the centennial legacy of empowerment and service embodied by the Tau Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, celebrating 100 years of unwavering commitment to sisterhood, scholarship, service, and social action.

Chartered in the heart of the 13th Congressional District on January 24, 1924, Tau Chapter stands proudly at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, the inaugural Black Greek letter organization on the campus.

Founded 111 years ago at Howard University by 22 visionary women, Delta Sigma Theta set the standard for service and advocacy. Boldly standing for women's rights in the women's suffrage march shortly after its inception, Delta Sigma Theta continues to inspire positive change.

AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE ASKED FOR SOLUTIONS

(Mr. LANDSMAN asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANDSMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the bipartisan Senate bill that would strengthen our national security, secure our borders, and support allies across the globe.

The American people have asked us for solutions, and this bill is packed with solutions, solutions to address the border and the fentanyl crisis. I was at one of the busiest border crossings on Friday, and this bill gives those folks the staff and the reforms that they need and the administration and the authority they need to close the border when it is overwhelmed.

The bill also provides solutions to support our allies, to stop Putin from pulling the world into a much larger, deadlier war in Eastern Europe, to provide funds to Israel and vital humanitarian aid to Gaza. We must end this war, and we need the assurance of stability and prosperity for Israel and Gaza.

I believe there is bipartisan majorities in both Chambers for these solutions if leadership gets behind them. The American people want this. The Speaker works for us, not Donald Trump. Bring us this bill.

INACTION EMPOWERS ENEMIES OF LIBERTY

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, why would a Speaker of this House choose to enable the aims of Russian dictator Vladimir Putin?

Why would any Speaker of the United States House of Representatives use his power to stop and dawdle for months and months, delaying critical supplemental defense funding to defend America against all its enemies at home and abroad that impose tyranny and terrorism?

All of us take an oath to protect and defend our people against all enemies, so why give Vladimir Putin comfort and license as he salutes himself in the mirror?

The manner in which House leadership is behaving by not bringing up a key defense bill month after month after month fails liberty where she is being most tested. Our Nation must move with our allies to defeat terrorism and tyranny wherever it exists—Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, the Pacific, and even sometimes inside our own borders.

Inaction by House leadership empowers enemies of liberty. It rewards Putin, Khamenei, Xi, Kim Jong Un and their chessboard.

Move the long delayed supplemental defense bill, Mr. Speaker. Liberty awaits.

CONGRATULATING DR. HENRY SMITH ON HIS WELL-DESERVED RETIREMENT

(Ms. MANNING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Dr. Henry Smith of Cone Health upon his retirement.

For nearly 30 years, Dr. Smith has been saving lives in our community as an interventional cardiologist. His passion for cardiology and his desire to improve quality of care has shaped his legacy of being a committed, patient-focused physician. Those who have had the pleasure of working with Dr. Smith will tell you he treats his patients as if they were his own family.

As the director of the Moses Cone Hospital cath lab, and with his role in Cone Health's early use of 3D/AI-driven imaging, Dr. Smith has been an innovator for 30 years. Dr. Smith has also served as chairman of Cone Health's board of trustees and is a member of the board where he was a steadfast advocate for expanding access to healthcare.

Outside the hospital, Dr. Smith is known for his involvement in his church and as a founding member of the Black Investments in Greensboro—or BIG—Equity Fund, at the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro.

Dr. Smith is an exceptional cardiologist, fierce leader, and a remarkable advocate for a more equitable healthcare system and community.

I congratulate Dr. Henry Smith on 30 years of excellence and his well-deserved retirement.

VSOS ARE HEROES

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, there is no greater way to learn how to help those who have fought for our country than to talk to a veteran and those who fight for them every day.

I was glad to discuss the most pressing challenges facing our veterans and their families in eastern North Carolina at a Veteran Service Officers roundtable. Participants shared the barriers for veterans who live in rural communities and their legislative priorities.

Consequently, I signed onto H.R. 196, the Expediting Temporary Ratings for Veterans Act, and H.R. 522, the Deliver for Veterans Act.

Our VSOs are vital in assisting veterans with claims, identifying State benefits, and facilitating their transition from Active Duty. VSOs are heroes.

LNG BAN HURTS AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EZELL). Under the Speaker's announced

policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is a sad day to see an administration choose party over country, radical views over the common good, and leftwing environmentalists over the American people. However, that is what happened a week and a half ago when President Biden halted permitting additional liquefied natural gas export facilities.

Let's be clear, this is not a pause. It is the first step of a process to ban outright any future export of LNG. This was a political decision to pander to the far left that will increase energy prices for American households. It will abandon our allies in their time of energy need. It will harm family-sustaining jobs, and it will relinquish American global energy leadership.

We will hear tonight from my colleagues of the many ways LNG exports strengthen our economic well-being and how this ban will weaken American security around the world.

First, before we get ahead of ourselves, let's quickly discuss the LNG industry, what it is, and why it is so important. LNG stands for liquefied natural gas. In a process where natural gas is cooled to a temperature of minus 260 degrees Fahrenheit, the gas becomes a liquid with a volume of one-six hundredth of its original size. This decrease in volume is what creates the possibility for LNG to be shipped around the world.

The exportation of LNG is only possible because of two incredible American technological achievements. The first took place in 1959 when an American proved that you could successfully and safely ship liquefied natural gas. The second was the shale revolution of the 2000s, and suddenly States like Pennsylvania, Texas, North Dakota, and Louisiana were able to produce huge amounts of natural gas.

This production dropped energy costs for Americans and led to our Nation being a net exporter of energy for the first time in 60 years. It was the technological innovation of extracting natural gas from shale that dramatically increased production. That, paired with our ability to liquefy natural gas and ship it, has allowed all of this to happen.

The American people have benefited significantly from these advances. The ability to export natural gas has driven investment to continue increasing nat-

ural gas production. This means more jobs in districts like mine in Pennsylvania and across rural America. It means more jobs in the pipeline industry, as companies invest in infrastructure to get the resources from the gas fields to the processing facility. It means more jobs on the coasts, where LNG export facilities are being operated and new ones are being built.

Important for all Americans, more production means more supply in the market, so natural gas prices have stayed lower and less volatile for American families. Finally, and ironically, given LNG's environmental detractors, it is better for the environment. American LNG is one of the cleanest baseload power fuel sources on the planet. President Biden's own Department of Energy trumpets the fact that U.S. LNG exports are 41 percent cleaner than competing Russian natural gas.

In summary, if exporting LNG leads to lower prices, more family-sustaining American jobs, and lower emissions, why would President Biden attempt to ban it? That is the question that we are struggling with tonight.

This action reeks of shortsighted election year politics that will have harsh, long-term effects on America. Along with all of my colleagues this evening, I urge President Biden to reverse this decision.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. JAMES).

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, the Biden administration just announced a total pause on new export permits for liquid natural gas, all in the name of climate change.

I am from Michigan, the Great Lakes State. We all love clean air and clean water. Michigan is the home of the automotive industry, and the longest coastline of any place in America with our Great Lakes, protecting both our table stakes. To those ends, LNG is one of the cleanest energy fuels on the Earth, mined with American labor according to the strictest environmental and safety standards in the world.

However, this administration has decided to play politics with not just our energy security but also our national security. Let me be clear. This administration does not hate oil and gas; they hate American oil and gas.

Since he has been sworn in, Biden has waged war on American industry. He has crippled the very industry that our prosperity and security rely on and the very reason the U.S. dollar is the currency of global trade, yet he has made us dependent on our adversaries, including Russia, China, and Iran.

If we had just done what President Trump asked of our allies in shutting down Nord Stream 2, Putin would not have been able to fund his war against Ukraine in the first place, but I digress.

Mr. Speaker, this war on LNG is going to impact my State specifically. Michigan has the most underground natural gas storage in the entire coun-

try, with 1.1 trillion cubic feet of underground storage. That is one-eighth of the Nation's natural gas storage capacity.

Mr. Speaker, the Biden administration's energy policies are insane. We cannot allow this administration to continue relying on dictators and despots from Tehran to Caracas to keep our supply chain moving and our homes heated. That would be like asking the fox to lock up the chicken coop at night or Secretary Mayorkas to watch the border.

By pursuing energy independence using safe, American-made energy, we lower prices, grow jobs, and reshore domestic manufacturing.

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That is why I voted in favor of H.R. 1 alongside 225 of my Republican and Democratic colleagues. H.R. 1 would unleash American oil and natural gas while securing our critical supply chains. It would ensure that America is energy independent, prepared for threats down the road.

This makes certain that America has the resources necessary to defend and protect herself while also assuring that blue-collar families in my district can afford to keep their lights on and their gas tanks full without breaking the bank.

Mr. Speaker, I will continue to champion energy that is made in America and hold Biden accountable for the foolish games he is playing with our future.

Mr. Speaker, Governor Granholm's policies crushed the State of Michigan. I will not stand idly by while Energy Secretary Granholm's policies crush the United States of America.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank Dr. Joyce for organizing this Special Order tonight.

I thank the Biden administration, actually. I thank the Biden administration because they came out a week from Friday and admitted what we knew all along. They paused American energy.

Mr. Speaker, it is consistent with what we have seen out of this administration for the last few years. They go out there and say, yes, Russia should be able to build the Nord Stream 2 pipeline to facilitate Russian energy, but the Keystone pipeline in the United States can't be built. It is pro-Russia; it is anti-U.S.

It is not just that, Mr. Speaker. Let's look at what is happening. Since Putin has invaded Ukraine, the European Union is still dependent upon Russian natural gas today. Mr. Speaker, 14 percent of the natural gas being supplied to the European Union is coming from Russia. Let me say it another way: It is a billion dollars a month. Of course, it was twice or three times that before the invasion.

What is happening is this billion dollars a month today is actually funding the Russian war against Ukraine. At the same time, this administration is out there banging on Congress to give them \$60 billion in aid for Ukraine.

I have an idea: Stop funding the Russian war. How do you do that? Dr. Joyce said this a little while ago. You can look at the National Energy Technology Lab analysis looking at U.S. natural gas. Compared to Russian gas, Russian gas has 41 percent higher emissions.

Mr. Speaker, let me say it another way: If we had taken 1 year of Russian gas that was supplied to the European Union and supplanted it, replaced it with U.S. gas, it would have reduced emissions to the tune of 218 million tons of emissions.

Do you know what? It would have been for free. We could have just supplanted U.S. gas with Russian gas. We could have kneecapped Vladimir Putin and those billions of dollars he received. We could have helped the economy in the United States. We could have strengthened our economic ties with our allies.

This doesn't make any sense, Mr. Speaker, but this is what we are seeing out of this administration over and over again. Their policies are resulting in Iran profiting \$60 billion—\$60 billion to Iran as a result of this administration's flawed energy policies.

We lost three servicemembers and had 30-plus more injured because we are funding Iran that is funding the Houthis that is funding Hezbollah that is funding Hamas that is funding the Islamic Jihad and other terrorist organizations.

This is unbelievable. Higher costs for American families, higher emissions, and lower energy security—this makes no sense. It lacks common sense, and it is simply not in America's interests.

I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for hosting this tonight. Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, we have to bring common sense back to American energy policy.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for his passionate presentation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my colleague from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER).

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, Dr. Joyce of Pennsylvania, for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my very serious concerns over the Biden administration's misguided, out-of-touch decision to pause pending approvals of liquefied natural gas exports, the latest assault by this President on American energy.

I represent the Ninth District of Pennsylvania, which encompasses a large portion of the Marcellus Shale natural gas region, one of the largest reserves of natural gas in the world. Not only does the natural gas industry support over 125,000 jobs in Pennsylvania, Mr. Speaker, but it also contrib-

utes \$25-plus billion to the Commonwealth's GDP, meaning Biden's continued assault on American energy, including on the natural gas industry, is truly an assault on Pennsylvania's workforce and economy.

The President's gas-backward energy policies directly impact companies in my district like Coterra, Seneca Resources, Chesapeake, Southwestern, and the many thousands of people they employ, including their families.

Yet, Joe Biden doesn't seem to care. Since taking office, he has issued a moratorium on natural gas leasing activities on various of the United States' resources, increased regulatory building codes that disincentivize the use of natural gas, issued an ESG rule hindering investments in natural gas companies, and implemented a new \$8 billion tax on companies that produce, process, transmit, or store natural gas. He significantly raised requirements for assessing proposed natural gas pipelines.

The list goes on. He has proposed overly stringent natural gas infrastructure project reviews and proposed a rule to severely restrict power generation at new and existing gas-fired power plants. Outside of that, he is wonderful.

Now, on January 26, the Biden administration announced its most harmful and inexplicable energy decision yet—to pause all approvals on LNG exports, which threatens our economy, our national security, and our ability to reduce carbon emissions.

On an economic front, the benefits of natural gas for America cannot be overstated. The U.S. natural gas industry is a powerhouse, supporting over 10 million American jobs and contributing \$1.8 trillion in U.S. GDP.

By fostering a robust natural gas industry, we stimulate investment, drastically enhancing domestic American-made goods and manufacturing and, of course, creating well-paying jobs across various industry sectors.

The Biden administration's decision will hinder all of this. This heavy-handed, Big Government approach is going to cause a great disruption to long-term LNG infrastructure initiatives.

At a time when we should be growing the industry, increasing production, and boosting exports, the Biden administration instead wants to limit our ability to be a world leader on the natural gas stage.

Beyond the economic implications, resuming the consideration of LNG export applications is crucial to our national security and strategic interests. Our allies depend on a secure, reliable source of LNG. By withholding these approvals, we risk pushing them into the arms of less stable, potentially adversarial suppliers like Russia, as my colleagues have been bringing up.

LNG export projects are indispensable for ensuring that we continue to function as the economic arsenal of democracy during geopolitical incidents,

such as the war on Ukraine. Simply put, energy security is national security.

Mr. Speaker, while this administration claims to want to reduce carbon emissions, their actions related to natural gas are doing the exact opposite.

Clean natural gas emits almost 50 to 60 percent less carbon emissions than other fossil fuels. Let me tell you, the way we extract and process natural gas here in the United States of America is far cleaner than it is in Russia, Iran, China, or Venezuela. Does anybody doubt that? Of course not.

Joe Biden's crusade against the natural gas industry is not only detrimental to consumers and producers, but it is detrimental to America's ability to regain the energy dominance we secured under President Trump.

We must embrace an all-of-the-above and all-of-the-below energy solution. The only people who benefit from Joe Biden's anti-American policies are our adversaries overseas.

Joe Biden, Mr. Speaker, is choosing Moscow over communities in my district like Montrose, Pennsylvania. He is choosing Tehran over Towanda. He is choosing Venezuela over Pennsylvania and Saudi Arabia over Sayre, Pennsylvania. This makes absolutely no sense.

The global uncertainty caused by Biden's pausing of LNG export hinders our ability to bring American natural gas to the world markets and limits our strategic advantages that the United States can provide to our allies.

We must support our economy. We need to be looking out in a serious way for our national security. We want to support Pennsylvania's workforce. I urge the Biden administration to reverse its pause.

Mr. Speaker, lastly, the administration needs to check their extreme ideology at the door and focus on outcomes, not ideology. We need to wake up and woke down.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG), my colleague on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for taking this opportunity tonight to remind us that on January 26, inexplicably, President Biden announced an indefinite ban on pending LNG export projects.

I wish it were indefinite, but I believe this is just another shot over the bow, showing that fossil fuels are going away—in his mind. Even for a President known for inflation and global instability, this is an inexplicable move.

Last week, during the international events surrounding the National Prayer Breakfast here, I even had comments from Baltic representatives, Balkan representatives, and others from the EU incredulous that that was going on when they need more LNG terminals, not less, more exports, not less.

American LNG has been a lifeline to our allies while wars rage. This decision is beyond the wildest hopes and dreams of Putin and the Ayatollah, who have capitalized on this opportunity to further finance their terror on this Earth.

I have yet to hear from any American clamoring to drive our allies to Russia and Iran, which is exactly what Biden's LNG export ban will do.

Maybe the White House needs a simple lesson: Cutting the supply of a product does not magically erase the demand or need for that product. However, cutting the supply does raise prices and forces consumers to look elsewhere. In this case, the consumers are our allies. They will look to Russia and Iran.

Ironically, these countries' energy production is far dirtier than our clean LNG. Due to this, from a climate and emission standpoint, Biden's decision will actually lead to more pollution.

American LNG has over 40 percent lower life cycle emissions compared to Russia and its compressed natural gas, which will help fill the void created by the Biden administration. American LNG has been one of the greatest tools used to reduce emissions. Instead of indefinitely banning LNG exports, we should be increasing them and touting our LNG success story, which has led to a decrease in energy-related emissions by 15 percent since 2005, beyond any of our closest allies.

The Biden war on domestic energy accomplishes a rare trifecta. It empowers our adversaries, raises energy prices, and increases pollution. Wow.

President Biden is once again putting politics over the American people and disregarding any semblance of common sense.

Mr. Speaker, this policy from the executive branch is unreasonable and indefensible, but I assure you this body will not allow the Biden administration to sacrifice energy security for America and our allies. This moratorium puts climate activists at TikTok above the energy needs of the world. We must do everything we can to reverse it.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation has been blessed with abundant natural gas reserves, and thanks to the shale revolution, the resources under the feet of my constituents have been unlocked. The boom in natural gas production has brought jobs and hope back to small towns throughout Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON).

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Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, Congressman JOYCE for leading the Special Order this evening.

Mr. Speaker, over the last 3 years, we have seen the Biden administration op-

pose American energy production at every turn. Biden's most recent announcement not only undermines our energy sector, but also endangers our allies overseas.

Since Putin began his invasion of Ukraine, our European allies have raced to transition away from Russian energy by importing clean American LNG.

The administration's shortsighted, dangerous decision accomplishes one thing and one thing only: empowering Russia.

Claiming that this decision is based solely on protecting the environment is just absurd. Because of natural gas, the United States has reduced its own emissions more than any country in the world over the last 20 years.

The President's ban on new LNG export projects is not an environmental decision, it is a political decision.

Rather than holding countries like China and Russia accountable, President Biden would rather appease climate activists who are determined to ban fossil fuels at all costs.

This latest announcement hurts producers here in America, in Ohio, the thousands of men and women working to keep our lights on every day, and throttles investment in clean American energy.

Simply put, by freezing LNG export permits, the President is putting election year politics ahead of the interests of American workers, consumers, and allies abroad.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, the graph beside me tells an incredible story. It talks about the volatility that occurs in natural gas prices. We see the spikes, but those spikes have diminished because of the shale revolution.

The access to natural gas has actually leveled off the price. This allows families to sit at their kitchen table and make budget plans because they know that next month they are not going to pay double or triple the cost of natural gas.

The shale revolution, the ability to utilize the resources that are under the feet of so many Americans, has allowed American financial stability to occur for American families.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY).

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to talk about the Biden administration's shortsighted policy, and I thank Dr. Joyce for bringing it up.

Mr. Speaker, this is another one of those examples of promises made, promises kept.

When this person was running for President, he couldn't stop telling people how we were no longer going to rely on our own energy. We were going to do something completely different. We were going to protect the environment.

He has actually kept those promises.

He has crippled the American economy. He has made the rest of the world

dependent on people who they should not be depending on, and the rest of the world has awakened to just how far to the left this current administration is.

We are talking about jobs, an unbelievable amount of jobs. We are also talking about not being dependent on any foreign country to supply us with the energy that we need.

How in the world could anybody sit back now after 3 years of watching this wrong-sided approach to how we would run the greatest Nation the world has ever known and reduce it down to what it is today?

We are talking about jobs. We are talking about the cost of energy. We are talking about reliability, not on some foreign supplier, but on our own domestic energy, people.

Why would anybody under this current administration think that somehow my future is drilling for natural gas; my future is looking at oil fields; my future is based on the ill-fated thinking of this current administration?

This goes so far beyond what any normal thinking person would say: Good idea, good idea. Let's continue to do that.

I know some people will say: Well, you shouldn't be speaking that way.

My answer to that is: Maybe more of us should be speaking this way.

How can our fellow American citizens sit back and watch the devastation to our own economy; walking away from domestic energy and thinking that somehow this is a move in the right direction?

Candidate Biden said he would cut back on all these environmental absolute disasters that were taking place in America. He has kept his promise to the American people. He continues to make his promise kept to the American people.

The question is: When will the American people wake up from this slumber? When they will forget about being woke and wake up to what is happening to America today and happening to us every single day?

For the President of the United States to make a statement like he is making today about domestic energy, and what LNG will no longer be permitted: You won't be allowed to do it in the future. We are going to cut back on your permits—why in the world would anybody stay in this business and say: I think I have a shot.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for America to stand up, not just our colleagues on the Republican side but everyday Americans.

We are talking about jobs. We are talking about American energy. We are talking about clean energy. We are talking about the future of the greatest Nation the world has ever known, and the fact that she does not have to depend on anybody else in the world for her energy, nor do other countries have to depend on Russia for their energy when they can actually get it from their friends in America.

Promises made, promises kept. This is another one of those promises that leads to the complete disaster and destruction of America.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for his passionate presentation.

Mr. Speaker, as we discuss this issue, it is important to recognize that liquefied natural gas actually has a positive impact on emissions rather than a negative one. Because of the clean power that natural gas provides, the United States continues to lead the world in carbon emission reductions.

In the last 20 years, natural gas has led to a 32 percent reduction in carbon emissions right here in the United States. As I said before, President Biden's own Department of Energy trumpets the fact that U.S. liquefied natural gas exports are 41 percent cleaner than Russian natural gas.

Our continued innovation, our continued development has helped lead to new technologies that have made our energy sources cleaner and more affordable.

As we look around the world, no other Nation has matched our work in this area. If the Biden administration is truly serious about reducing carbon emissions, then a ban on LNG exports is truly a massive mistake.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE).

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this administration's latest attack on the American energy industry, and I thank my very good friend, Congressman JOYCE, for holding this Special Order.

President Biden's LNG export ban is nothing more than a political stunt simply to appease the far-left activists. It has become abundantly clear that President Biden and his administration lack a competent understanding of global energy markets. This export ban will fuel higher costs for families here at home and push our allies abroad into the hands of our adversaries.

Hoosiers watching at home won't be fooled by false claims of environmental stewardship.

American LNG is the cleanest form of natural gas available and has allowed the U.S. to lead the world in emission reductions.

Since day one, the Biden administration has led our Nation into an energy crisis of their own making, and we have arrived:

Energy costs are through the roof. Our electric grid is on the brink of failure, and all forms of reliable baseload power are retiring at an alarming rate, leaving us perilously afraid of the future.

House Republicans are not alone in our concerns. Engineers, grid operators, refiners, and the rest of our energy industry are saying in unison: This will not work, and it is not working right now.

It is past time this administration paid attention to the experts and not radical environmentalists.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, I think there is a point that cannot be missed today: That we have Members of Congress from North, South, East, and West, from all corners of the U.S., questioning the Biden administration's reckless ban on the export of liquefied natural gas.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), my colleague and another member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, Dr. JOYCE, for organizing this Special Order on the Biden administration's indefinite de facto ban on LNG exports.

While this is a clear election year stunt by President Biden, the real policy impacts will be profound, unfortunately, putting the national security of the U.S. and our allies at risk, increasing global greenhouse emissions, and unduly jeopardizing American economic prosperity. What a shame.

Perhaps the greatest winner of the LNG permitting pause is Russia and its maligned allies and coconspirators.

Even before its invasion of Ukraine, Russia weaponized its natural gas exports to extract concessions that undermine the rules-based international order.

In response, the United States provided our allies and the world a much-needed check against those threats to democracy, to reliable and accessible energy, but no more.

President Biden is abandoning our allies, and choosing to enrich despotic regimes, such as Russia and Iran. This decision will also decrease available alternatives to less clean forms of energy.

Many countries were relying on American LNG to help in their green transition. Instead, the Biden administration will leave countries like Germany, India, and Japan all needing to reopen previously shuttered, high-emission power plants.

China, a major LNG importer, is already building new high-emission power plants, and President Biden's decision will only encourage that trend, unfortunately.

Finally, this decision will cost Floridians jobs. Florida is a growing LNG exporter, and the President's pause will see significant economic benefit and opportunity evaporate due to a political stunt. No common sense.

Mr. Speaker, America and its allies deserve better.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania has 26 minutes remaining.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is important to remember that every shipment of LNG that does not come from the United States has to

come from somewhere else. Often that means that gas is being sold by our adversaries, including Russia and Iran.

At a time when Iranian-backed terrorists are killing American troops, the Biden administration is voluntarily opening up avenues for the Iranian Government to profit on the sale of liquefied natural gas.

Sadly, this is business as usual for an administration that fails time and time again to understand how its decisions can impact our national security.

We saw this when President Biden telegraphed his plan to withdraw from Afghanistan ahead of the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, emboldening the Taliban.

We saw this last week when the President failed to respond quickly to strikes carried out by Iranian-backed terrorists. We are seeing President Biden's failed foreign policy on display once again with this decision to withhold American liquefied natural gas from our friends and from our allies who need it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK).

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague, Dr. Joyce, for hosting this Special Order on such an important topic.

Simply put, President Biden's liquefied natural gas export ban puts politics over people and America last.

The Biden administration states that they must put a pause on the LNG permits to conduct more studies to better understand the effects of U.S. LNG exports.

Let's be honest, how many more studies do we realistically need?

The Department of Energy has already commissioned five studies on this very subject. Let us not forget that previous administrations did these studies without blocking export permits.

Really, what this administration is doing is creating additional uncertainty in an industry that is already under constant assault by the Biden administration. This pause will have and is starting to have a chilling effect on investment and discouraging foreign governments from signing long-term contracts.

Furthermore, this will undermine America's position as a global energy leader and exporter of LNG.

Stopping U.S. LNG exports will stifle economic growth by limiting revenue streams and job opportunities associated with LNG production, liquefaction and export infrastructure.

For those unfamiliar, the LNG industry is not one you can turn on and off like a light switch. It requires constant investment and development. You can't stop on a whim. There are billions of dollars at stake, jobs at risk, and allies' trust that is now compromised, allies who are looking for the United States to be a reliable partner to fuel their economies.

Instead, the White House seems more interested in taking domestic energy

advice from TikTok influencers who are just in it for clicks, shares, and impressions.

□ 2015

Indeed, the Biden administration agreed to meet with TikTok influencers at the White House after a trend slamming and targeting the LNG industry went viral. President Biden said in the aftermath: "This pause on new LNG approvals sees the climate crisis for what it is: the existential threat of our time. . . . We will heed the calls of young people and frontline communities who are using their voices to demand action from those with the power to act."

The consequences to the economy or our national security be damned, because, clearly, this is about getting votes, and, in particular, the youth vote, of which President Biden has suffered tremendous losses.

This is not about saving the planet, clearly, because denying the development of domestic LNG is not scientifically sound. Stopping LNG exports does not make the climate any cleaner or safer. In fact, the opposite happens. Ultimately, this restriction will curtail innovation, investment, and the overall competitiveness of the United States energy sector in the global market and in the process keep our allies dependent and reliant on dirty fuel from energy-producing nations that, let's face it, just don't give a damn about the environment.

We need to follow the science. How about we look to the data and not to social media influencers. Let's work to keep this industry strong. In return, we get a strong economy, robust national security, and job opportunities for Americans.

Mr. Speaker, the Biden administration must reverse their decision and lift the ban on LNG export permits.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for her words.

Mr. Speaker, from my home State of Pennsylvania to the Gulf Coast, natural gas creates family-sustaining jobs that are vital for our communities. From 2005 to 2019, more than 1.4 million manufacturing jobs were created in the natural gas industry.

When President Biden stops the flow of LNG, he is sending a message to American families that are supported by these jobs. Biden is sending a message that his political welfare is more important than American families' livelihoods. Biden is sending a message that keeping his far-left base happy is more important than American families' financial stability. It is shameful. It is shameful for the President to pretend to care about the American workers and then make decisions that directly harm them.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. KEAN).

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time, and I thank him for leading us here together in this Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, President Biden's decision to indefinitely pause LNG export approval permits is misguided and wrong. It prioritizes radical activists over American energy security and the security of our allies abroad. This pause is economically and strategically dangerous and unnecessary.

The Department of Energy has consistently found that American LNG exports serve the public interest by providing positive economic benefits and strengthens our energy security.

Mr. Speaker, our European allies are seeking American energy leadership to counter Putin's weaponization of Russian natural gas exports. In December 2023 alone, over 87 percent of U.S. LNG exports went to the EU, U.K., or Asian markets.

Any action that slows or halts the U.S. ability to export LNG would weaken global energy security. In Congress, and within this administration, we should be doing everything in our power to incentivize reliable natural gas and to grant the export permits that allow access to markets around the world. Policies that encourage LNG exports create good-paying jobs here in America and strengthen our allies abroad.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Biden administration to end this pause.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons that our allies rely so heavily on American-made liquefied natural gas is because of its reliability.

In recent years, we have seen billions of tax dollars used to prop up failing energy producers like wind turbines and solar farms. While wind and solar should certainly be available, the fact is they are unable to sustain major electric grids. Without battery technology to store the energy collected by renewable energy sources, the United States and our friends and our allies will continue to rely on natural gas.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. JOYCE for hosting tonight's Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, just 2 weeks ago, in yet another example of President Biden caving to leftwing activists, this administration announced that they would pause all pending approvals of liquefied natural gas, or LNG, export terminals.

Under the guise of climate change, this blatantly political decision will only serve to eliminate American jobs, increase costs for American consumers, and further jeopardize U.S. energy security, all to appease climate extremists and prop up President Biden's rush-to-green agenda.

Let me remind the American people that just 3 years ago, our Nation was energy independent for the first time in our history. We controlled the price of a barrel of oil. We dominated the world energy economy.

Studies show that LNG exports could increase the U.S. economy by over \$73 billion by 2040 and could create more than 453,000 American jobs.

Mr. Speaker, the President should please listen.

It is no surprise that this reckless announcement was met with bipartisan backlash when a recent study showed that only 3 percent of Americans believe climate change is the most pressing issue facing our country.

I hear constantly from my constituents how high energy prices are. Indefinitely banning exports of LNG will not lower the cost of energy. We need to open our markets and domestic energy production to lower costs for the American people.

Now, more than ever, we need to embrace an all-of-the-above energy strategy and unleash the production and export of clean, affordable, and reliable American LNG to further reduce emissions.

Finally, President Biden's war on American energy is undermining our national security. As Chair RODGERS said, this is nothing more than a gift to Putin.

Mr. Speaker, if this administration wants to end the war in Ukraine and bring peace to the Middle East, then give us the permits for the pipelines and the LNG facilities, and we will power Europe. This will cripple Russia and Iran. In fact, Europe, like the U.S., would be burning their energy 42 percent cleaner.

I thought we wanted to reduce the carbon footprint and at the same time promote world peace. I proudly stand with my colleagues in calling out this political charade.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his words.

Mr. Speaker, from New Jersey to Florida, from Pennsylvania to California, liquefied natural gas, its production and export, has a positive effect on so many Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. FULCHER).

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, President Biden is constantly putting his Green New Deal ideology ahead of the American people when it comes to the U.S. energy sector. From canceling the Keystone pipeline to ending Federal drilling projects, the President has weakened our domestic energy production since his first day in office, leading to sky-high oil prices across the country and a loss of nearly 11,000 American jobs.

Now, the administration is performing the same song and dance in the name of climate change by halting exports of liquefied natural gas abroad. It is lunacy.

I am proud to join 150 of my Republican colleagues, led by Chair CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS, in a letter to the President expressing our concerns and our opposition to this decision.

LNG is a clean energy source. By cutting off American exports, we are forcing our allies into the arms of nations

often hostile to America. By the way, they often have zero environmental regulations.

Over the last 2 years, the EU has been forced to import 40 percent more LNG from Russia, directly funding Russian aggression in Ukraine with roughly \$21 billion in 2022 alone.

If kept intact, our LNG industry is projected to bring up to 452,000 additional jobs to hardworking Americans by 2040, adding some \$50 billion to \$73 billion to our economy. Plus, we gain the economic leverage as an economic exporter of energy to other nations.

Mr. Speaker, as a cosponsor of H. Res. 987, Denouncing the harmful, anti-American energy policies of the Biden administration, I urge my colleagues to put an end to Biden's war on the U.S. energy sector. It is time to prioritize the well-being of Americans over the flawed ideologies of the Green New Deal.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Idaho, a fellow member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for his insight and comments.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania has 11 minutes remaining.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as we have stated, the impact of stopping the export of liquefied natural gas affects all Americans.

We have had individuals from all over, Representatives, who know the impact financially to their constituents. They know the impact on jobs to each one of the Americans who are in the natural gas industry. We understand, and this is not lost on us.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Mr. JOYCE leading this Special Order here tonight. It is very important that we shed the positive spotlight on energy production that natural gas is and also shine the spotlight on what a horrific decision it is by Mr. Biden and his administration to shut down export, as well as the ongoing efforts to shut down capacity, exploration, and production of natural gas in this country.

Through the miracle of hydraulic fracturing, not that many years ago, it put the U.S. on the map internationally as a gigantic energy source in the world.

I remember about 20-plus years ago, we were looking at how we could find a way to import more liquefied natural gas, set up our ports for that so the big ships can come in from somewhere else and bring us this energy source. Hydraulic fracturing has made it possible that we are a gigantic source of energy around the world, and indeed other countries are looking to us and would look to us more if we were giving more of a positive signal.

This is the chart showing usage from about 2010 up to current. If you look at

that on a global scale, energy usage on a global scale is going to increase massively as more and more countries come on board and become less Third World and more of a modern economy.

Oil and gas is going to be extremely important, so the U.S. should be leading the way. We should be stronger partners for our European allies. We have seen the debacle that the Russian pipeline is going to be and has been for Germany, in one case, and the reliance on Russian gas.

□ 2030

Don't they look back at how these alliances haven't been strong enough to rely on a neighbor like that for so much of your energy?

In Germany just 1½ years ago people were going out to the woods and cutting firewood to make sure they were going to get through the cold season. This was on top of their destroying so much of their nuclear generation.

So the Biden administration's approach to natural gas is very wrong-headed. So as you see, Mr. Speaker, increased demand in just a short amount of time of low-cost domestic energy has been, indeed, miraculous.

My next chart will show that the cost of natural gas, although peaking some years ago in the early 2000s, was getting quite expensive. This is right where hydraulic fracturing came in and made it a very, very low-cost and very clean form of energy. It was helping get us to energy independence until the Biden administration decided to come along and say: No, we are not going to do it here. We want Germany and Europe to rely on Russian gas, and we are going to be somehow more green than everybody else here.

So it is very dangerous for us. It is dangerous to our allies. As we have seen, it empowers those in Russia and in Iran to do the types of things that they are doing around the world to upset peace. Indeed, Iran is a major sponsor of terror helping out Yemen.

As I mentioned earlier, so many of the weapons that you will find, Mr. Speaker, missiles that maybe didn't completely fire or explode, what have you, you will find that Yemen has been using them and they have Iraqi signatures on them. So every time the rest of the world patronizes Iranian gas or Russian gas, it just helps them to undermine Western countries and those who are trying to be good neighbors.

So the more we go the wrong direction on this and follow the Biden model, the bigger trouble we will be in. Indeed, natural gas has been a miracle in how important it has been to our economy up until recently with the Biden crew.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of the Members who have joined us this evening to hold this Special Order to address President Biden's policy failure on liquefied natural gas. Since his first day

in office, President Biden has worked to dismantle our Nation's energy production, revoking permits, stonewalling new development, and using red tape to harass our energy producers.

The decision to halt the permitting of LNG exportation facilities is the next step in an agenda that puts Green New Deal policies ahead of American families.

The Biden administration has continually passed the buck for high prices by blaming domestic energy producers. Biden's regulatory assaults destroy any incentive for domestic energy producers to invest in building our natural gas infrastructure.

Now, most recently, President Biden announced that his administration would no longer hold court-ordered offshore oil and gas lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska.

Liquefied natural gas is safe, affordable, and easy to transport. That is why this week 150 of my colleagues and I were led by E&C Chair RODGERS and Speaker of the House MIKE JOHNSON to demand that President Biden overturn this terrible decision. We know that this energy source, which is underneath the feet of my constituents, will help power our allies, it will help create American jobs, and it will help reduce emissions.

Instead of embracing this technology, President Biden has caved to his far-left base who refuse to recognize the benefits that LNG has for America. A single shipment of LNG can power an entire city, and, yet, the Biden administration has refused to allow these shipments.

Tonight, we have heard about the dangerous impacts that the cutting of LNG exports have from raising prices here at home to funding our adversaries by forcing European nations to rely on energy from Russia and from Iran.

Let's be clear. President Biden is choosing to cut American jobs and fund our enemies. When it comes to our energy security, appeasing liberal activists can have long-lasting and very dangerous consequences. We all must continue to urge the Biden administration to reverse this disastrous decision and allow liquefied natural gas exports to continue and to power communities around the world.

It is time to return to American energy dominance, and it is time to stop using our energy security as a pawn in political games.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

BIPARTISAN IMMIGRATION REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. ESCOBAR) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.