

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 28, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden:

Over the last few days, we have seen Russia launch an unjustified war against a sovereign nation and our strategic partner, Ukraine. We unequivocally condemn Russian President Vladimir Putin and his attacks, which have put the lives of millions and security of Europe in grave danger. However, rather than take concrete steps to deter President Putin, your Administration's energy policies have only emboldened his actions. Specifically, your gift of the Nord Stream 2 Pipeline granted Putin more control over energy in the region while at the same time, your policies weakened America's energy independence.

Energy independence is critical to national security, as our adversaries like Russia understand the world is now more dependent on foreign oil and natural gas. That's why we are demanding that your Administration immediately restore the oil production policies that were established in 2017 under the Trump Administration. Under these policies, America was energy independent. The past Administration lifted the ban on federal leasing for coal production and lifted restrictions put in place during the Obama Administration that killed the production of oil, natural gas and shale energy through the Clean Power Plan.¹ Furthermore, President Trump signed a memorandum restoring construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline, providing a safe and reliable way to transport energy resources between the United States and Canada to strengthen America's energy security and generating billions in revenue to boost economic growth.²

In contrast, one of your first actions as President was to kill American energy independence by issuing an executive order revoking the permits for the Keystone XL Pipeline, a first signal to adversaries like Russia that America would be dependent on foreign oil.³ And yet, even in the midst of the impending military invasion, on February 17, 2022, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) released updated guidance to delay and deny natural gas pipeline projects.⁴

¹ <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/president-trumps-energy-independence-policy/>

² <https://2017-2021.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Federal-Register-Memorandum-for-Construction-of-the-Keystone-XL-Pipeline.pdf>

³ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-protecting-public-health-and-environment-and-restoring-science-to-tackle-climate-crisis/>

⁴ <https://www.ferc.gov/news-events/news/ferc-updates-policies-guide-natural-gas-project-certifications>

These misguided policies have left the American people paying skyrocketing prices at the gas pump and empowered Russia to invade Ukraine, which will only result in gas prices continuing to surge for Americans and our European allies.

Failed policies by your Administration have devastating impacts, both at home and abroad. As you come before Congress and our country to deliver the State of the Union, we urge you to include in your speech a strong commitment to the American people that you will end this war on American energy, restore the Trump Administration policies to spur domestic oil production, and restore the Keystone XL pipeline. America must once again be energy independent so the world less reliant on malign actors.

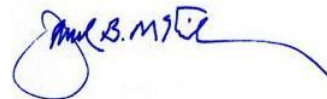
Sincerely,



Rick W. Allen
Member of Congress



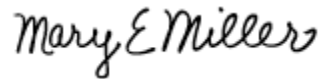
Scott Perry
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress



Jody Hice
Member of Congress



Diana Harshbarger
Member of Congress



Tom McClintock
Member of Congress



Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress



Lisa McClain
Member of Congress



Bob Good
Member of Congress



Clay Higgins
Member of Congress



Austin Scott
Member of Congress



Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



David G. Valadao
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



A. Drew Ferguson IV
Member of Congress



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress



Jim Banks
Member of Congress



Billy Long
Member of Congress



Alex X. Mooney
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress



Troy Balderson
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Brian Babin
Member of Congress



Ben Cline
Member of Congress



Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress



Virginia Foxx
Member of Congress



Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress



Marjorie Taylor Greene
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



Tom Emmer
Member of Congress



Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.
Member of Congress



John H. Rutherford
Member of Congress



Victoria Spartz
Member of Congress



Steve Womack
Member of Congress



Mark Green
Member of Congress



Tom Rice
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress