

Refining capacity

The number of U.S. refineries has dropped 52 percent, from 321 in 1981 to 149 today. High refinery utilization rates, which have remained above 90 percent since 1992, leave a slim margin available to meet any increase in demand, raising



the potential for volatile markets. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 provides incentives to increase U.S. refining capacity for gasoline, diesel fuel, home heating oil and jet fuel by streamlining the regulatory and

approval process for the restart of idle refineries or the construction of new refineries. The incentives require an accelerated regulatory review and approval process but does not waive or diminish any existing environmental, siting or other regulations.

Affordable natural gas

North America's nonpark federal lands contain enough natural gas to supply energy to 100 million homes for 157 years. However, Americans can't access this supply because of red tape. More than 50 percent of U.S. homes use natural gas as their main heating fuel and accounts for nearly 38 percent of the manufacturing sector's total energy consumption. The energy legislation cuts through bureaucratic red tape by streamlining permitting for natural gas projects on federal lands, provides royalty relief for deep gas wells in the Gulf of Mexico and streamlines provisions to encourage efficient federal review of natural gas facility applications while requiring consultation with state and local officials.

Transportation fuels, vehicles

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 includes a wide-ranging set of measures to address transportation fuels and new technology vehicles. The legislation represents the largest effort to improve the nation's use of alternative fuels in more than 10 years – and it will serve to accelerate the use of fuel cells, alternative fuels and hybrid technology in the transportation sector. The legislation would also enact the President's vision for hydrogen fuel-cell cars before a child born today reaches driving age.

“The high cost of gasoline and other fuel is draining our economic growth and the wallets of our fellow Americans. This bill will increase our domestic energy supply, promote conservation and reduce prices for consumers. The Energy Policy Act will foster hundreds of thousands of new jobs and help preserve many more. The time to enact this comprehensive legislation is now.”
– House Energy and Commerce Chairman Joe Barton

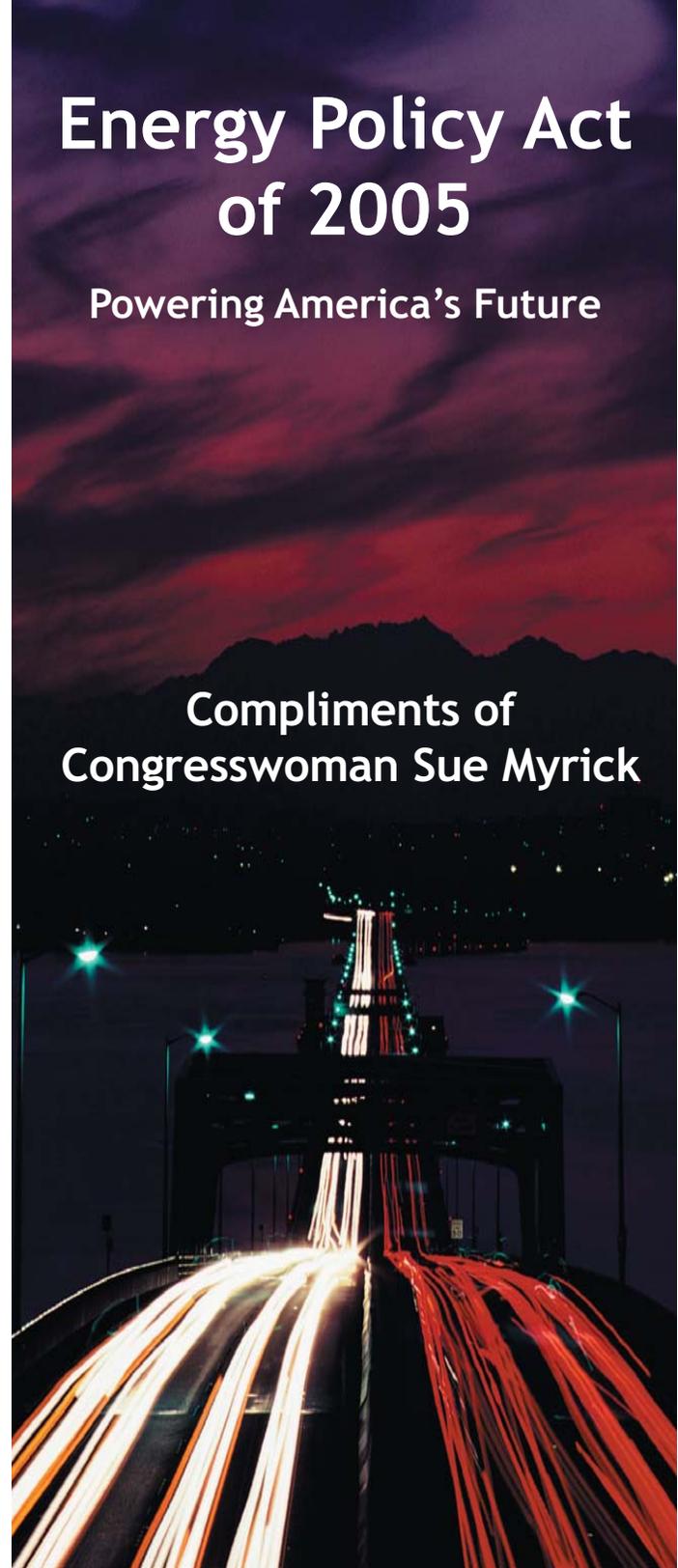
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Joe Barton, Chairman*



Energy Policy Act of 2005

Powering America's Future

Compliments of
Congresswoman Sue Myrick



Why does America need a comprehensive energy bill?

Energy is vital to every sector of the U.S. economy including homes, small businesses and industries. Energy powers computers, appliances,

technology, fuels transportation and farming processes.

As energy supplies have tightened, a deteriorating

energy infrastructure have caused home heating bills to skyrocket and forced many U.S. manufacturers to slow production, lay off workers and even go out of business.

This legislation promotes conservation, reduces our growing dependence on Middle Eastern oil, improves our economy and creates new jobs.

Benefits include:

- ✓ An estimated half a million new jobs
- ✓ Increased oil and gas production here at home, at prices people can afford to pay
- ✓ Mandatory electricity-transmission-reliability standards to prevent blackouts.
- ✓ Clean coal technology, and money for wind, solar, geothermal and hydroelectric power and to develop hydrogen vehicles
- ✓ New efficiency benchmarks for a host of household appliances



Energy conservation

America's energy consumption is at an all-time high and rising, despite ongoing efficiency gains. If our nation is to meet these needs in the coming decades, it will be in part due to continued advances in energy efficiency, renewable energy and conservation – helping to reduce our demand on foreign supply, and stimulating economic growth. One goal is to save consumers and business money spent on energy, so they can invest, spend and grow the economy and improve our standard of living.

Reliable electricity

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 was crafted to prevent devastating blackouts like the one America experienced in 2003. The legislation contains important measures that will help to attract new investment into the



industry and ensure the reliability of our nation's electricity grid. The legislation empowers federal authorities to establish and enforce mandatory rules to ensure the reliable operation of the interstate transmission grid. But ensuring reliable electricity also requires investment. The legislation replaces the long obsolete

Public Utilities Holding Company Act of 1935 with regulation that allows investors to pump billions of dollars into our nation's transmission infrastructure while also protecting consumer rights. The electricity title has broad and strong support from a wide range of market participants.

Clean coal

Coal plays a vital role in energy production and our economy. Half of our nation's electricity is produced from

coal and the nation has more than 250 years worth of available reserves.

Current projections indicate that

U.S. electricity demand will increase by more than 30 percent in the next 15 years. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 addresses this challenge by including several measures which will demonstrate and deploy new clean coal technology which vastly reduces air emissions as well as other technology to increase the efficiency of coal-based power systems.

Nuclear energy

Nuclear energy provides a reliable, low-cost and zero-emission source of electricity and accounts for 20 percent of our electricity. Nuclear energy is an essential component of energy diversity but the technology underpinning our plants is about 30 years old. To maintain energy diversity, we need to take action to encourage the construction of new plants, just as we encourage other forms of energy production in the energy bill. This legislation paves the way toward new nuclear plant construction starting with a 20-year reauthorization of the public liability protections in the Price Anderson Act. Without Price Anderson, no plants can be constructed.

