



March 16, 2023

Ms. Kaitlyn Peterson
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Via Email and Mail

Re: American Energy Expansion:
“Improving Local Economies & Communities Way of Life”

Dear Ms. Peterson:

Responses to the questions you provided from our Congressmen follow:

The Honorable Rick W. Allen

1. Can you discuss the positive employment effects of oil and gas development and how government policies have a negative impact on the workforce?

Answer: The negative messaging by the Biden Administration regarding the phase-out of oil and gas in the next ten years or so has discouraged younger people from pursuing employment in the oil and gas industry that are needed to replace retiring “baby boomers.” Further, delayed permitting for drilling and oil and gas transportation infrastructure, including indefinite NEPA review; lack of federal leasing for oil and gas development; increasing cost of regulatory compliance; and uncertain rulemaking by the EPA currently in process, has caused investors, management and corporate boards to be reluctant to make long-term investments in developing oil and gas resources and the infrastructure needed to process and transport the petroleum products to consumers.

The Honorable Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.

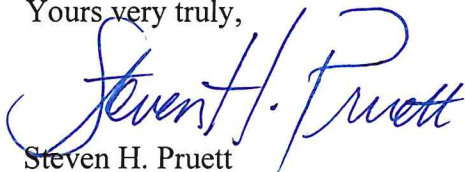
1. Can you speak to some challenges exploration and production companies have faced with respect to permitting, and what reforms may be helpful at the federal level?

Answer: Whether it is due to inadequate staffing or intentional delays, the Permian Basin’s BLM offices are backed up on permits for drilling and the easements and rights of way for necessary pipelines to get produced oil and gas to refineries and gas processing plants that manufacture petroleum products for consumers. Furthermore, the FERC has delayed approvals or the Federal Court systems responding to litigation, primarily related to protracted NEPA reviews, have delayed oil and natural gas pipeline projects needed to transport oil and natural gas to consumers. The Keystone XL Pipeline, cancelled by the President Biden, and the PennEast and Mountain

Valley Pipelines are examples that would supply secure and affordable natural gas to areas not served or undersupplied by U.S. natural gas. The Keystone XL Pipeline would increase oil imports from Canada, and reduce the transport of oil by rail or truck across the border, which has safety and environmental concerns. Instead, our federal government is requesting increased oil supplies from Venezuela, an oppressive regime hostile to our country. Regarding natural gas supplies on the East Coast, LNG is imported from countries including Trinidad and Qatar, which is four times or more expensive than gas from Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia where Americans are employed, and taxes and royalties are paid to states, counties and private landowners. The producing states mentioned would benefit as would the consumers of New Jersey, New York, and New England who are paying higher prices for heating and electricity as a result. The restrictive policies of the Biden Administration are hurting energy consumers in the U.S. as well as economic activity that creates jobs and tax revenues at the federal, state and local levels.

Should you have any further questions, please call me at (432) 685-7744 or email me at spruett@elevationres.com.

Yours very truly,



Steven H. Pruett
President & CEO,
Elevation Resources LLC
Chairman,
Independent Petroleum Association of America