



February 22, 2021

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We implore you to withdraw Executive Order 14008 (“Order”), issued on January 27, 2021, which bans new oil and gas development on federal land and in offshore waters.

There are many parts of our country where energy is more than a utility bill or tank of gas—it’s a job creating industry that provides good careers and steady paychecks to families in rural areas and small towns. Where the recent surge in oil and natural gas provided jobs and created wealth when we needed it most, the Order will drastically hinder the ability of the oil and gas industry to recover, both onshore and offshore, as the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic subside. In particular, the Order has a negative economic effect upon western states with large tracts of federal land and upon Gulf Coast states, chasing away capital investment for long-term economic growth and undermining public services, public conservation, public safety, public education, and more. Beyond directly impacted states, the Order is estimated to spike American residential energy costs by \$1.7 billion per year.

Thanks to the hardworking men and women in the energy industry, the United States has become the world’s leader in the production of oil and gas. For the first time in decades, America was exporting more than we were importing, allowing us to rely less and less on foreign countries and adverse actors to supply our citizens with the low-cost energy they need to heat and cool their homes and run their businesses. To meet consumer demand and stabilize our electric grid, we depend on energy produced on private land and public land—we need both. Simply put, the Order jeopardizes our national security interests and strips away the opportunity for Americans to be energy independent.

As governors, we believe that solutions come from innovation, not regulation, and we support an all of the above energy approach, not picking and choosing winners and losers. Along with private sector ingenuity, state frameworks and standards are the best solution to producing cleaner and more affordable energy that curbs emissions, including during the development and production of fossil fuels. Instead, the Order inevitably shifts development away from U.S. federal lands and offshore waters to other countries with far less stringent emission controls, exacerbating concerns over greenhouse gas emissions worldwide.

You began your presidency with calls for unity, specifically to end the divide that pits urban versus rural, and as Republican leaders, we stand ready to work with your Administration to advance our states and country. In contrast, the lack of consultation with our states demonstrated by Executive Order 14008 is

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alarming, showing disregard for the citizens we serve and the businesses that employ them and keep our country running and our nation secure.

We encourage you to reverse course—pause the pause—and open a constructive dialogue with each of us as you have promised the American people you would do. We look forward to receiving your response on this important issue.

Sincerely,



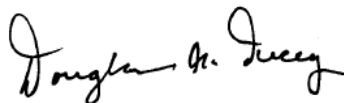
Governor Mark Gordon
State of Wyoming



Governor Kay Ivey
State of Alabama



Governor Mike Dunleavy
State of Alaska



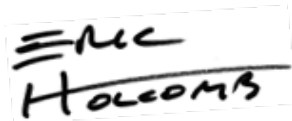
Governor Doug Ducey
State of Arizona



Governor Asa Hutchinson
State of Arkansas




Governor Brad Little
State of Idaho



Governor Eric Holcomb
State of Indiana



Governor Tate Reeves
State of Mississippi



Governor Mike Parson
State of Missouri



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Governor Pete Ricketts
State of Nebraska



Governor Doug Burgum
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Governor Kevin Stitt
State of Oklahoma



Governor Kristi Noem
State of South Dakota



Governor Bill Lee
State of Tennessee



Governor Greg Abbott
State of Texas



Governor Spencer Cox
State of Utah