Mr. Spencer Abraham, Secretary  
US Dept of Energy  
100 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Abraham,

I am writing in regard to the National Energy Policy Development Group you are heading. The development of a national energy policy is vitally important and is long overdue.

The fact that the Bush administration’s best idea is drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, however, should be embarrassing. While President Bush tries to convince Congress and the public that drilling ANWR is a super idea, PacifiCorp announced the construction of the world’s largest wind farm, on the Oregon-Washington border. The Tennessee Valley Authority will soon be offering electricity generated through solar power. Citizens in Washington are finding ways to cut energy consumption by 10%. When gas prices rose quickly last year, people complained but they also increased carpooling and use of mass transit. Organizations across the country are encouraging conservation, development of renewable resources, reduction of pollution and protection of wildlife habitat. America is trying to make real progress on energy. It would be great if the federal government would at least catch up with us, if not provide leadership.

I’m sure you have seen all of the facts showing that drilling ANWR would be short-sighted, uneconomical, and a blatant pander to the oil companies, so I will not repeat them here. I am writing to urge you to drop drilling ANWR from your list of considerations. Drilling any part of ANWR is unconscionable. ANWR should instead be designated as a national monument. I urge you to focus on the long list of progressive steps toward a responsible national energy policy, including:

- Raise vehicle fuel efficiency
- Raise fuel taxes
- Provide incentives for purchase of alternative fuel vehicles
- Encourage and support enhanced oil recovery from existing wells
- Encourage and support gas-to-liquid technology use near Prudhoe Bay (BP/Exxon/Mobil still make money)
- Remove market barriers to renewable (non-nuclear) energy
- Switch governmental promotion and support from nuclear power to renewable power
- Support Senator Jefford’s Clean Energy Act

Most Sincerely,

Rebecca L. Smith

Obtained and made public by the Natural Resources Defense Council, May 2002
Secretariat, The

From: [name]

To: [name]

Subject: Select SEJP:,

FROM: rwi
N, qM
SUBJECT: Select
PARM: TO: the,<secretary@hq.doe.gov>
STATE: bOP:
Pue_
SUBMIT: Send Comments
CONTACT: email

In the emerging energy policy that I have
heard President Bush and Vice President Cheney
comparing effort will be made to seek out new sources of energy.
Can and will the government encourage the
development of fuel cells and electric vehicles? Will the government
encourage the development of new energy sources? Can and will the
utility business lobby's history of keeping its oil and gas
executive for an oil company in between his public policy roles?

Seeing that we have never performed an experiment on our Earth to

Obtained and made public by the Natural Resources Defense Council, May 2002
MESSAGE: Please support a United States Energy Policy that encourages research and development of alternative energy sources, especially ethanol and wind turbines. As we look to become more self-sufficient and less dependent on the middle east when it comes to energy, we need to encourage and support the efforts to develop alternative energy sources here in the US. Drilling for oil on US land is NOT the best solution. We will be right back where we are today in just a few years. In page A2 of the Tues,
From: Friedrichs, Mark
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2001 12:59 PM
To: Subject: Response to your e-mail of February 26 concerning U.S. Energy Policy Development

Dear Mr. Tzeferakos:

First, I would like to apologize for the long delay in responding. The Department of Energy has been receiving thousands of e-mails in recent months, and we are still trying to catch up.

I suspect that you have been following the work of Vice President Cheney's Energy Policy Development Group through the media. The only statements released regarding the Administration's new energy policy have been well reported in the press. The most detailed was Vice President Cheney's recent speech in Toronto.

It is our understanding there will be a substantial document released shortly, almost certainly during May. I am sure that the media and various U.S. government webpages, including the Department of Energy's (energy.gov), will immediately disseminate this document and any related announcements, as well as summary information.

I hope this is helpful.

Sincerely,

Mark D. Friedrichs (PO-2)
Policy Office
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20585
202-586-0124
Fax: 202-586-3047

Obtained and made public by the Natural Resources Defense Council, May 2002
Many scientists have given long, hard, thought to the issue of power infrastructure in the United States. Please find some ideas that draw their origin from this community that might help in your efforts to form a National Energy Policy. I would be most pleased if you would consider seriously this input.

Increase available power to the National Grid:

1. Solar panels on the roofs of homes in the sun belt. For an average home, 6-10 thousand dollars will install sufficient solar collectors to power the entire home during the day and will result in power being RETURNED to the grid by the user, reducing their power bill. In the evening, the user will rely upon the local grid and power producers, however, the consumption will be much reduced. A user could easily make money in this process. Provide incentives for people to install these.

2. Make the hard choice and increase reliance on non-fossil-fuel and domestic sources of power. These include solar, hydro, wind, and nuclear. Not only will this increase the available power to the national grid but also meet our international obligation to reduce fossil-fuel-produced greenhouse gases. The reduction in greenhouse gas emissions as well as the increased reliance on other renewable sources should appease many of the environmental groups. (Reminder, nuclear energy is renewable in that it can produce its own fuel. In addition, some limited reprocessing would permit extraction of highly valuable and rare medical radioactive isotopes for cancer, thyroid and other treatments.) Make this hard choice.

Reduce reliance on foreign sources:

3. Decrease reliance on non-US sources. While increasing the available electrical power to the grid via points 1 and 2, natural gas sources (our own) become available for such things as hybrid automobiles. Provide significantly increased incentives to use alternate powered vehicles and mandate that current gas stations be provided resources by the parent oil companies to provide distribution as part of their service (rapid chargers, natural gas). The use of gas-electric hybrid vehicles is a likely solution.

Reform the regulatory process and reduce NIMBY:

4. Reduce and streamline the regulatory process of getting approval to build new plants. Provide incentives to the local communities to build plants to reduce the "not in my back yard" (NIMBY) syndrome. People seeing their schools and cities benefit from a yearly "bonus" for having a local power plant (in the form of additional resources for their school or the like) would be much less likely to suffer
NIMBY.

Educate:

5. Make nuclear power less ominous. Provide information on the use of nuclear power in other countries, such as France, and the improvements made over the 1960s technology used in Chernobyl and Three-Mile Island. People are afraid and they should not be. The ONLY way to solve that is for an organized government-driven education program.

I thank you for taking the time to read this. I really believe that some of these ideas should be incorporated in the US National Energy policy and would be more than willing the help with such. I have provided these ideas to you as a US Citizen.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Kreek
A concerned Livermore Laboratory scientist and US Citizen

Obtained and made public by the Natural Resources Defense Council, May 2002
Subject: Nuclear Energy

MESSAGE: I understand that an energy policy is under review. I urge that Nuclear Power be given a strong place at the table. We have allowed a small, liberal and I must say, left-wing minority to dictate our policies towards nuclear power. Ever since Three-Mile Island the government has been in a defensive posture. It reminds me of the Tet Offensive in the Vietnam war. We won the battle but the news medium distorted and swayed the American people against the war on the basis of our "defeat". Similarly
From: 
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2001 11:00 AM 
To: Secretary, The 
Subject: Policy 

FROM: 
NAME: Norman Haan 
SUBJECT: Policy 
ZIP: 
CITY: 
PARM: TO:the.secretary@hq.doe.gov 
STATE: 
TOPIC: New Sources of Energy 
SUBMIT: Send Comments 
CONTACT: email 
COUNTRY: U.S. 
MESSAGE: It appears to me that the Clinton administration had no energy policy resulting in shortages which are costing us heavily. I would like to see efforts to develop new sources of energy. We can get beyond the dependence on oil. What about garbage, agricultural products, nuclear waste, sea water? There are many other things. I am not a scientist, but we have tremendous technology today discovering new avenues and products. Car efficiency can also be increased very much. Give us a good energy policy and
From: [email]

To: "President George W. Bush" <president@Whitehouse.GOV>

cc: Vice-President Richard Cheney <vice.president@Whitehouse.GOV>
Subject: Shared Energy Corporation

Dear President Bush,

Congratulations on your being elected and sworn in as the nation's 43rd Chief Executive Officer and Commander-in-Chief. I want to personally let you and Mrs. Bush, Vice-President Cheney and Mrs. Cheney, your respective staffs and cabinet members know that I am being obedient to the Word of God and I am indeed in prayer for you, our leaders.

President Bush, I will continue to pray for your health and well-being, that you'll be encouraged, that you'll make the right decisions concerning the country and our neighbors abroad, and that God's favor and protection will surround you like a barrier around a fortress. I also want to express my love and concern for you and all of the aforementioned personnel. Please do a good job for this country, as I know you will, and I believe bigger, better and brighter things will happen for you and this country.

President Bush, I also want to let you know that I am a man of God, with Godly principles and full of the faith that it takes to please God. I'll be in your corner and your supporter. If ever I can provide a word of counsel, comfort or inspiration then I am willing to perform that duty. I wanted to share that information with you so that you would know that there are people that truly care and are really excited about the future that is before us!

President Bush, I also wanted to introduce you to a company that I recently formed named Shared Energy Corporation. I read today on the AP News Wire where you have issued directives on the formation of a Federal Energy Policy. My company was formed to focus on such issues. Our mission will be to reduce energy consumption by utilizing energy management technologies in order to achieve greater levels of energy efficiencies and reduced costs, thereby reducing the production of greenhouse gases and acid rain which greatly affect our environment. Alternative energy sources are also a part of our business plan that we will endeavor to research and develop.

President Bush, I desire that Shared Energy Corporation would play a part or be a working team member in dealing with the aspects of this new energy policy.

Following is the company's contact information:

Shared Energy Corporation
P.O. Box 4726
Marietta, GA 30061-4726
ATTN: John T. Flack III, President
I thank you for your time and indulgence in this matter. Together, I believe these problems can be solved and they will be solved. There is nothing that is impossible for us to do when we work together for the solutions.

Thank you again and I wish you God's speed. God bless you.

John T. Flack III
Dear Mr. President

I strongly support a change from the status quo of our energy policy (or lack thereof) and I have a few suggestions that seem glaringly obvious but that have been largely ignored.

First, I want to point out that our current energy distribution system is negligently one-sided. We rely almost solely on fossil fuels to meet our energy needs. As we are finding in California and elsewhere, this is disastrously shortsighted. The primary goal of any new energy policy must be to remove our dependence on fossil fuels. Much as been made of the your desire to decrease our dependence on foreign oil by developing domestic sources. This is grossly insufficient and completely ignores the problem of our dependence on oil itself.

Estimates of remaining fossil fuel supplies abound and can be used to support any point of view, depending on which estimate one chooses. There are, however, a few facts that do not rely on estimates. First, all fossil fuel sources are limited. Only the self-deluded pretend that fossil fuels can continue to meet our energy needs indefinitely. Next, the development of fossil fuel resources causes extensive environmental damage. Companies claim that they can obtain oil in an environmentally friendly way. This is simply not true. I’ve worked around many oil fields and have yet to see a single one that didn’t resemble a war zone. Then, of course, are the devastating methods we use to obtain coal. Unlike their petroleum counterparts, coal companies at least have the decency not to attempt to dupe us into believing that their methods are environmentally benign.

Finally, the use of fossil fuels causes problems for humans and the environment everywhere on the planet. Global warming is already causing vast financial losses from increasingly erratic and violent weather systems. Even the seemingly localized air pollution of our metropolitan centers is dispersing across relatively pristine regional areas causing stresses to multiple environmental systems. This is not merely a problem of aesthetics; human-induced stresses on environmental systems always cause unanticipated problems. History shows quite clearly that harming the environment ultimately harms us.

Do any energy policy that perpetuates our reliance on fossil fuels is self-defeating and not worth pursuing. On the other hand, we are clearly reliant in the near to on these fossil fuels. What, then, are we to do? Perhaps the most important thing to keep in mind while pondering this question is that, in the long term, we do not have to rely on fossil fuels to meet any of our energy needs! With a little intelligent planning, existing fossil fuel sources can be sufficient to supply all of our near

29212

Obtained and made public by the Natural Resources Defense Council, May 2002
term energy needs while we transition to a sustainable energy solution. The
only sustainable solution available to us is the same one that has been
obvious for decades: renewable energy sources such as solar, wind,
geothermal, and tidal. Ultimately, it is clear that we will have to rely on
a multifaceted energy distribution system that is primarily dependent on a
variety of renewable energy sources. Anything less exacerbates our energy
problems.

I believe, however, that merely changing our energy dependency from fossil
fuels to renewable energy sources is not the complete answer. Along with
this switch must come increases in energy efficiencies. This has the added
benefit of helping decrease our reliance on foreign sources of petroleum
without developing new domestic sources. Any complete energy policy must
include incentives and/or regulatory requirements for substantial increases
in energy efficiencies in our appliances and vehicles.

In the final analysis, the only good energy policy is one that increases
energy efficiencies and lays a short path towards a multifaceted,
renewable-based energy distribution system. Please write to me and explain
how you will work towards the above stated goals. A solid, renewable-based
energy system will allow our country to continue to lead the world
economically, environmentally, and energetically.

Sincerely,

Kurt D. Anderson

P.S. As I completed this letter, I found that the your own brother has sent
a letter to the Interior Department in an attempt to prevent any
consideration of developing off-shore petroleum sources near Florida. In
this letter, Governor Bush stated, "I am confident that the new
administration will recognize the need to protect sensitive natural
resources located both offshore and along Florida's coastline for the
benefit of the entire nation." I sincerely hope your administration will
take this keen understanding to heart and prevent the abuse of natural
areas merely to perpetuate an antiquated and problematic fossil fuel-based
energy system!

29213

Obtained and made public by the Natural Resources Defense Council, May 2002
From: Louis Liebhaber

President Bush:

Dear President Bush,

You have assembled a group of advisors who are smart and highly experienced. Surely given the enormous talent of that team you can find more responsible ways to assure that this nation has the energy resources it needs than to seek out oil and gas in the sacred wilderness of our country.

As an elected official and a leader of the greatest nation on the face of the earth you have an obligation to promote the long term view not cave in to the avarice of the those who would create a sense of hysteria over the current electricity shortage in California. How could you even consider invading the sanctity of areas which support tranquility, endangered wildlife and a refuge of all men now and in future generations? What about a responsible position promoting conservation of energy and the responsible development of alternative energy sources? Surely with all of the money and talent we have in the country we can see beyond today's craving and sacrifice a bit to assure that we BOTH have our energy needs met for the future AND we have wilderness areas for our future posterity.

What do you want your legacy to be? The Exxon Valdez? The Galapagos spill? or new sources of responsible energy and places for your grandchildren to explore the wonders of nature?

Do the right thing! Not the expedient thing - that's the mark of a true leader.

Sincerely,

Louis Liebhaber

Sincerely,
Mr. Spencer Abraham, Secretary of Energy  
Department of Energy Headquarters  
Forrestal Building  
1000 Independence Ave. SW  
Washington, DC 20585

9 February 2001

Dear Sir,

I feel that after eight years of doing little, the Department of Energy (DoE) must develop a coherent energy policy that sets forth the goals and priorities of the Department. This Policy must then be implemented in accordance with an integrated plan that defines the schedules and budgets associated with each of the various tasks. This program will include such tasks as:

a) A PR program to convince the general public that gas guzzling SUV's are not cool for shopping and going to work. Hybrid electric vehicles are the “in” way to go. This will reduce the amount of oil used for transportation, and the amount of vehicle generated pollution.

b) We have the technology to convert nuclear waste into “bricks” which can be transported and stored safely. Let's do it, then mount a PR campaign to convince the public that nuclear power is clean and safe. After all, France generates about 40% of its electricity from nuclear power stations, we could do that also.

c) As a result of R&D efforts by industrial and national laboratories, equipment has been developed and tested which dramatically reduces the energy losses associated with the control and transportation of electric power. This equipment uses superconductivity to achieve energy savings. Let’s use this technology.

d) Across the great southwest one sees hundreds of wind powered generators, many of which are standing still due to reliability problems. The DoE should support the reliability studies and corrective actions necessary to put those machines back on line.

e) The United States has large reserves of coal that are not as widely used for power generation as they could be because coal is considered a “dirty” fuel. We have the technology to process coal into a cleaner burning fuel, but the current processes are relatively expensive. The DoE should support further research and development of a less expensive process.

The list goes on and on, there is much to do. The foregoing are examples of tasks intended to provide the United States with more energy at lower cost, and to reduce our dependence on foreign oil which places us a the mercy of international politics.

You need someone (not a politician) with the education, the training, and the experience necessary to manage such a program. I am that person and I WANT THAT SLOT.
My background is that of a Professional Engineer with 40+ years of experience, mostly in the aerospace world where planning, budgets, and schedules are a way of life. I did spend my last years on the DoE sponsored Superconducting Super Collider Laboratory (SSCL) program in Texas. I took early retirement when that program was cancelled.

I am bored with retirement and desire to get back to what I do best – manage large, complex programs.

I am available for further discussions at your convenience and hope to hear from you.

Sincerely,

John E. Martz

29216

Obtained and made public by the Natural Resources Defense Council, May 2002
From: On 01/30/2001 09:45 PM GMT

To: president@Whitehouse.GOV
cc:
Subject: Energy Policy

I am astounded and disappointed to hear your first words on an energy policy to be: Find More Oil, generate more electricity. No word on conservation policy or on the pollution problems inherent to burning more fossil fuel.

The last sensible policy I heard on energy was Bill Clinton's BTU tax. Raising the price of any commodity will encourage conservation.

A F DELALOYE
Mr. President and Mr. Vice President,

Your energy policy that was put forth yesterday is an offense to any long term thinking American. Using the California crisis to push an unsound policy that has little or nothing to do with California power concerns is deceitful at best and a tragedy at worst. Continued reliance on non renewable resources such as gas and oil at the expense of the environment will only exacerbate an already dangerous problem. Your intentions to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and granting waivers to states that run older power plants, even if they VIOLATE clean air standards crosses the line to criminal activity and reveals a flagrant disregard for future safety of this country's air, water, and land. Producing policies whose main beneficiaries are oil companies, who would obviously love to see weakened environmental controls in exchange for more profit, shows an administration who would put the wealthy before even the SAFETY of the American people, not to mention our neighbors who must deal with the fallout of our environment policies. The answer doesn't lie with oil but in alternative renewable power sources. The United States should, and eventually must, put its energy and money into research to get us out of the crippling fiasco of an economy is too bound up with a resource that will eventually run out. If its not futile enough to tie our future to a dead end, then at least refrain from destroying the environment in which we all have to live in the process. Try looking for solutions that have long term benefits that future generations can appreciate and enjoy rather than running over the same tired ground that we know one day will fail. If we don't invest in alternatives now, before more energy crises show up in the headlines, you will doom us to a country whose land air, and water were ravaged in a quest for greed and short term solutions. I hope that you both would like a more noble legacy than that for your administration.

Sincerely,

Tom Benham

From: C.  On 01/31/2001 02:59 AM GMT
To: President <president@Whitehouse.GOV>, Vice President <vice président@Whitehouse.GOV>
cc:
Subject: Your Irresponsible Energy Policy

29218

Obtained and made public by the Natural Resources Defense Council, May 2002
March 8, 2001

The Honorable Spencer Abraham
Secretary Of Energy
Department Of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW

Dear Secretary Abraham:

Will you please briefly comment on your views, your philosophy concerning the country's energy policies? In particular, will you address our concerns, both clearly addressed, and to those implied in the letter sent to Senator Lugar?

Thank you, Mr. Secretary,

Rubin D. Cooley

R.D. Cooley
Rubin D. and Irina G. Cooley


We will appreciate your comments.
March 8, 2001

The Honorable Richard G. Lugar
United States Senator
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-1401

Dear Senator Lugar:

Ref: Letter to you Senator, April 8, 2000, "The New Petroleum"

My Foreign Affairs, January/February 1999, issue, so dog-eared and soiled, I now circulate only my photo copies of your essay, "The New Petroleum"

It is written that the Bush budget includes, "...a sharp cut for energy-efficiency and renewable-energy research."

At one point during the campaign, I read that candidate Bush would cut out funding for ethanol research. Whether direct government funding for R&D costs or playing games with tax dollars generates the greater benefit is beyond my math ability.

Given that Texas is home for a large number of oil drilling equipment firms and that the Bush family is satisfied with the petroleum industry's future revenue generating possibilities from oil leases in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska, it is safe to assume that for political reasons, and self interest, it would be counterproductive that the administration support an alternative-energy program at this time.

With California's energy distribution fiasco, and the cry for more distribution lines and oil-fired generating plants, it becomes ever more certain that, "The United States cannot wait for the next energy crisis to marshal its intellectual and industrial resources." Drilling in Alaska for a quick solution to either of these problems is excessively optimistic. I feel that the president's energy plans for the future will lead to disaster unless people of knowledge, foresight, power and influence succeed in bringing about a change in the types of fuel we burn to generate electricity.

Your knowledge, your foresight, your place in our society is all we can hope for. We cannot do it alone. Your excellent essay, "The New Petroleum", is the most convincing piece I have ever read on the subject. I'm a Washington state resident and, of course, my vote must be cast, if cast at all, for candidates of our state, but the nature of this energy thing affects us all, if not the entire world.
I hope you and your staff will continue to work toward educating the American people...if nicotine is injurious to your health... "Our growing dependence on increasingly scarce Middle Eastern oil..." is far more deadly. We need another George Orwell Novelist to do a frightening, "Two Thousand Eighty Four" thriller—a bit more engrossing than non-fiction, boring reality—a thriller to seize and take hold of our impaired, attention deficit readers' popular imagination, to drive home the possible catastrophic implications of world wide dependence on Middle Eastern oil.

Our country needs your help, Senator Lugar.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Rubin D. Codley

[c.c. Spencer Abraham, Secretary of Energy]
June 22, 2001

Rubin & Irina Cooley

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Cooley:

Thank you for your March 8, 2001, letter expressing your thoughts about the Nation’s energy policy.

First, I would like to apologize for not responding earlier. The Department of Energy has received thousands of letters and e-mails since the beginning of the year and it has been impossible to provide timely responses to all of them.

To address the many energy issues facing the Nation, one of President Bush’s first acts was to create a National Energy Policy Development Group, headed by Vice President Cheney. This Group was charged with developing recommendations to help the private sector and government at all levels promote reliable, affordable, and environmentally sound energy for America’s future. On May 16, Vice President Cheney sent to the President a National Energy Policy report produced by the National Energy Policy Development Group. The report describes a comprehensive long-term strategy that uses leading edge technology to produce an integrated energy, environmental and economic policy. The National Energy Policy it proposes follows three basic principles:

- The Policy is a long-term, comprehensive strategy. Our energy crisis has been years in the making, and will take years to put fully behind us.
- The Policy will advance new, environmentally friendly technologies to increase energy supplies and encourage cleaner, more efficient energy use.
- The Policy seeks to raise the living standards of the American people, recognizing that to do so our country must fully integrate its energy, environmental, and economic policies.

To achieve a 21st century quality of life – enhanced by reliable energy and a clean environment – it recommends 105 actions to modernize conservation, modernize our infrastructure, increase our energy supplies, including renewables, accelerate the protection and improvement of our environment, and increase our energy security.

The President has already taken actions to implement many of the report’s
recommendations. Over the coming months, further actions will be taken by the President, individual Federal agencies and the Congress. These actions, once fully implemented, will help minimize future energy prices, while assuring that energy supplies are reliable and the environment is protected.

A copy of the National Energy Policy report, with the specific recommendations to the President, is available on the White House webpage, www.whitehouse.gov, or on the webpage of the U.S. Department of Energy, www.energy.gov.

I hope this information is responsive to your letter.

Sincerely,

Margot Anderson
Acting Director
Office of Policy
From: [redacted]  on 01/26/2001 04:16 AM GMT

To: president@Whitehouse.GOV
cc: 

Subject: Energy policy

From:
    Michael Smith

President Bush:

I appreciate you taking the lead in formulating a national energy policy with a balance between new energy production and generation and the need to conserve resources and live more simply. The previous administration listened too much to the conservationists who falsely believe we can just conserve our way out of an energy shortage. The oil fields under the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge need to be drilled but with care to do as little harm to the environment as possible. Natural gas on our nation’s public and private lands need more attention. If we are going to use natural gas as a primary fuel in this country, we need to ensure a steady supply and price. At the same time, we need to once again try to increase fuel mileage standards to reduce our consumption of oil and pollute less. I trust that your administration will have the courage to initiate these much needed reforms. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Michael Smith

29224

Obtained and made public by the Natural Resources Defense Council, May 2002
March 12, 2001

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary of Energy Abraham:

I have high hopes for the new administration, and I feel it can be a great administration if it realizes the opportunity it has to proceed with vision on the country's energy policy. While America should have made efforts to become energy independent right after the "energy crisis" of 1973, I don't feel that this lack of initiative means that we should now drill for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge or in other pristine natural areas.

Americans want to save land of unspoiled natural character. These areas should be off limits to the disturbances of man and are of increasingly greater value as the country grows in population and development. Wild places should be large to preserve viable wildlife populations and because large unfragmented tracts are the true character of wilderness. The administration I hope will uphold these values, for public lands are our best chance to maintain the integrity of nature itself on this continent. I ask you to consider how incredible America's landscape is.

Though the subject of energy independence is one of national security, I feel that with real vision our nation can meet its energy needs and still protect this wonderful country. We don't believe the oil industry experts who say oil extraction can be accomplished without destruction of sensitive areas—any human activity changes these special areas.

Therefore, I ask you to embark on a courageous path of showing real leadership to conserve energy—our citizens need your inspiration to turn off unused lights, shut windows so the heat doesn't escape from a building, purchase energy-efficient cars and appliances. I'm referring to great leadership, like during World War II, when we faced the challenge with unity and purpose. This administration could rally the people on a grassroots campaign to accomplish the goal of not wasting energy. The work of Amory Lovins and others demonstrates that energy efficiency alone can get our nation out of the jam we're in. Add to that the development of alternative sources of energy, and America could leave its wild open spaces alone for future generations to appreciate.

Sincerely,

James Stone

29225
Secretary, The

From: Dr. John Hutton
Subject: Policy

CITY: 
ZIP: 
STATE: OH
TOPIC: carbon dioxide emissions
SUBMIT: Send Comments
CONTACT: email

MESSAGE: Dear Mr. Abraham, Greetings. Congratulations on your appointment, and I hope all is well so far in this rather tumultuous term. I am writing to pass along the text from an original letter I sent President Bush today regarding his about-face on his campaign pledge to seek a uniform, federal role in regulating carbon dioxide emissions from power plants in national energy policy. To say the least, we were dismayed and outraged, and hope you will do what you can to redirect federal energy policy towards a...