

A Bold, Strategic, and Actionable Plan Forward

Since the Institute for 21st Century Energy issued its first **Blueprint for Securing America's Energy Future in 2008**, the U.S. energy landscape has been transformed from an era of energy scarcity to one of **undeniable abundance**. Today, energy production is one of the most promising sectors of our economy. The optimism of an America poised to become a global energy powerhouse is warranted, but this transformation has occurred despite federal policy, rather than as a result of it.

The energy opportunities available to the U.S. are unprecedented in their scale and importance in revitalizing our nation's economy and standing in the world. However, harnessing these opportunities is far from guaranteed when it is clear that our national energy policy is not keeping pace with the 21st Century energy

realities, and in some instances is actively working against it. The Energy Works for US plan is an actionable path forward toward a forceful, forward-looking energy policy that will serve our nation's vital interests, both foreign and domestic.

The Energy Works for US plan is divided into nine energy planks that identify the most promising areas taking into account our changed energy, economic, and fiscal positions. Each energy plank includes a set of specific policy recommendations that, if put into practice, would accelerate our nation's ability to fully capture our energy potential and overcome those barriers that stand in the way. Our plan will help create millions of jobs, billions in government revenue, and trillions of private sector investment.

Nine Planks for Sound U.S. Energy Policy

Remove Barriers to Increased Domestic Oil and Natural Gas Exploration and Production and Fuel Manufacturing



Enhance the Competitiveness of Renewable Sources of Energy



Protect Our Energy Infrastructure from Physical Disruptions and Cyber Attacks



Maintain Coal's Role as a Vital Part of a Diverse Energy Portfolio



Promote 21st Century Energy Efficiency and Advanced Technologies



Reform the Regulatory Process for Balance, Predictability, and Transparency



Expand Nuclear Energy Use and Commit to a Nuclear Waste Solution



Modernize the Permitting Process for Our Nation's Energy Infrastructure



Ensure a Competitive Energy Workforce



Solutions for Securing America's Future

America is poised to become a global energy powerhouse. The United States has a greater variety and quantity of energy resources than any other country in the world. When combined with new exploration, production and end-use technologies, there is no reason we cannot usher in a new and long-lasting era of energy abundance and enjoy its economic

benefits. Instead of erecting roadblocks to domestic energy development, government policy should be embracing a more secure energy future by creating an environment that welcomes investment, innovation and job creation. Now is the time to adopt an agenda that will unleash the energy revolution and all of its benefits.

Reasons to be Optimistic about Jobs and Economic Growth

- ✓ The Congressional Research Service estimates that the United States holds about 17% of all the world's combined reserves of oil, natural gas and coal—more than Saudi Arabia, Russia, Iran or any other country.
- ✓ Unconventional oil and natural gas development are playing a big role in America's energy comeback, lowering energy costs and fostering a manufacturing renaissance. One study found that unconventional oil and gas development in 2012 accounted for 2.1 million jobs, \$75 billion in government revenues, \$87 billion in investment and \$284 billion in economic activity.
- ✓ The United States is already a net exporter of refined petroleum products, and as domestic production of crude oil grows, the amount we import is shrinking. Instead of importing growing volumes of natural gas, by 2020 the United States is expected to become a net exporter. These trends could potentially eliminate our trade deficit by the end of the decade.
- ✓ Abundant and affordable coal, natural gas and nuclear power give America a big competitive advantage. They mean that U.S. electricity rates are two to four times lower than rates in other developed countries in Europe, as well as in Japan.

Want to know more about American energy?
Read the full report, [Energy Works for US.](#)



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The energy opportunities available to the U.S. are unprecedented in their scale, scope and importance to economic growth, but harnessing these opportunities is not guaranteed.

