

How Fuels can Fuel Our Economy And Strengthen National Security

Bringing Energy Production Home



One year's spending on foreign oil 1) accounts for about half of our annual trade deficit, 2) Is equal to nearly half of President Obama's first stimulus plan, 3) or half of the total amount spent directly on the Iraq War. ¹

- The average American household spends \$4,000 per year on gasoline for their car. In 2011 overall, Americans spent \$700 billion on fuel versus \$600 billion on food.
- Oil is the single most important factor driving global commerce and driving our economic health.
- Our dependence on O.P.E.C. countries for oil, which include some of the most politically volatile and hostile to the U.S., runs counter to our national interests. They control the source and price²

The Solution

Making alternative fuel choice available to Americans that would improve efficiency, reduce costs and be environment friendly.

- **A likely alternative:** Presently all cars manufactured in the U.S. are engineered to become easily switched to operate on alternatives to gasoline, such as Methanol and Ethanol, or a combination called Flex Fuels, both of which burn cleaner. Ethanol is derived from plants (corn largely) and Methanol can be produced domestically from many sources, including natural gas.³
- **Incentivize the Alternatives:** The bipartisan Open Fuel Standard (H.R. 2493) would serve every American well by creating a market for alternatives at the gas pump by requiring that by 2016, 30% of all new cars sold in the U.S. be equipped to take fuels which are alternative to petroleum derived gasoline. Additionally, this number would be required to increase to 50% by 2018.
- **Open the fuel market:** -presently there are hundreds of regulations that make it too expensive for consumers to convert their vehicles to flex fuels.
- Once consumers are given a choice at the gas pump the price of gasoline will drop dramatically.
- The technology to implement this already exists.

Current Policies Won't Work

- The government has proposed a fuel plan, which seeks to replace American coal with America's natural gas resources. This would not have any effect on transportation fuels, i.e. gasoline prices.⁴
- This would not have any benefit of reducing America's need for economic cooperation with O.P.E.C. country regimes.

1. www.fueelfreedom.org/the-real-foreign-oil-problem/oil-economics/
2. www.openfuelstandard.org/2013/08/rip-opec.html
3. www.fueelfreedom.org/the-real-foreign-oil-problem/beyond-oil/
4. www.nationalreview.com/article/353030/pass-open-fuel-standard-robert-zubrin/