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News Release

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Bachmann Introduces Shale Oil Exploration Bill

Offers the *Fast Track Shale Act* as part of \$2 Gas Plan

(Washington, DC) – Today, U.S Representative Michele Bachmann (MN-6) introduced another energy exploration bill which would provide the American people with much-needed relief at the pump. The *Fast Track Shale Act* would open up U.S. federal lands that contain oil shale, cut red tape binding Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regulations for commercial development of this shale, and set in place new research and development that will help foster a better process of extracting this form of oil.

"With our nation's families facing record high prices at the gas pump, America must become less dependent on foreign oil and produce our own energy so that we knock down these rising costs," stated Bachmann. "Right now, America has an abundance of oil and natural gas sources that are readily available. Unfortunately, Congress is standing in the way of their retrieval and is continuing to make it illegal to access these valuable resources."

BLM estimates that the oil shale-rich areas of Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming alone hold 1.23 trillion barrels of oil. This oil would completely offset Saudi Arabia's 1.2 trillion barrels of known reserves making the United States independent of foreign oil all together.

"Before taking the majority in Congress, Democrats promised to meet our nation's energy demands, but they've been entirely unwilling to vote on a comprehensive energy bill before breaking for August recess," said Bachmann. "With complete disregard for our nation's hurting families, the Democrat-led Congress has continually blocked efforts on the House floor to expand the development of American petroleum resources and bring down the price of fuel. I will continue to call for more exploration in Congress as part of a comprehensive all-of-the-above energy strategy."

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