

So we will probably have a bill that is over \$3,000 for heating our home basically 6 months out of the year. If gas goes any higher—we are going to have to figure out how to get even deeper in debt to find a cheaper way to heat our home in the winter. As you know—Idaho gets cold. We HAVE to heat our home!!! Living in Salmon, we HAVE to drive over 300 miles in a round trip either to Idaho Falls or Missoula Montana for doctors, Costco, clothes shopping etc.—as due to there being a lack of logging or mining anymore there is really no local options for shopping, etc. The very lives of people living here depend on big rig trucks bringing our food etc. For MANY years now, we have been hearing of the Idaho Cobalt Project—but because the environmentalists have such a stranglehold on ALL industries in this country—we are still awaiting word of WHEN or IF this project will start. If it does get clearance, Salmon, Idaho will once again have jobs that pay a living wage for a family. We have a house that we moved out of in downtown Salmon in 2005—it has been sitting empty awaiting a buyer since then. It is in a commercial zone—and commercial is dead in Salmon. We filed paperwork with our mortgage company way back in February to give the house back in a Deed in Lieu—and we are still awaiting word!!! Apparently, the mortgage companies are backlogged about 6 months? We can't afford to visit family in California because we can't afford the gas. My husband's mother and father in California got extremely ill this last year, but he was never able to visit because of the debt load we are carrying and how expensive driving or flying is!! We are working to make payments and catch up on our gas bills that are maxed out right now. We stopped making payments on a house that would not sell for 3 years now—that has left us behind in everything. With fuel costs continuing to rise because we have a Democratic Liberal, Anti-American Congress that continues to ban any sort of domestic drilling for our own petroleum deposits—we don't even have a chance to catch up right now as gas prices continue to rise. We are fortunate though. My husband has a busy and successful business and thankfully at least, we are able to work to make our payments. On Father's Day, we decided against a picnic any further than 5 miles out of town because of the cost of fuel. It is sickening to us that our government cares SO little for the average working American. It is sad that our government has allowed itself to be controlled by secular humanist environmentalists who care more for a spotted owl or a tiny snail than the human family. Just ask anyone here in Salmon how we feel about the forests being shut down to logging—yet it is perfectly fine for the forest that is becoming nothing more than a deadfall tinderbox to burn and choke us with toxic, suffocating smoke for 2 months every summer! Something has to change because if it does not soon—this country is going to enter a depression that makes the Great Depression look like the Good Old Days!!!

Sincerely,

BRENT AND KATIE, *Salmon.*

It is very hard to understand why the United States, the most powerful Nation on Earth, is begging the Middle East for oil. We need to immediately increase drilling off shore, in Alaska and other States, plus utilize technology available to extract oil from shale deposits in the Rocky Mountains. We have advanced technology sufficiently to be safe for the environment and yet provide for ourselves rather than being dependent upon the Middle East.

Is it true that China is drilling off the Florida coast, but we can't? In Idaho Falls, the Chamber is bragging about bringing a

French company's new uranium enrichment plant and the corresponding jobs to the area to fuel nuclear power for France. WHAT—we have had the capability of generating nuclear power at the INEL for 35 years. My father worked at the INEL for 35 years. You mean to tell me the environmentalists will allow uranium enrichment for France, but we can't utilize an existing US nuclear plant for power for Idaho?

Bio-fuels are not the whole answer, it puts too much pressure on our farmland that we need to crop food crops. The prices of food are going up enough because of the fuel costs.

The US has substantial coal deposits, we need to build more coal fired power plants. Combined with the nuclear and wind, we should be able to have more than enough power to re-charge hybrid cars.

Besides increasing drilling in the US, we need to invest in some updated/additional refineries.

Then, Congress needs to do something about the speculators driving up the price of crude oil. I don't know if you can make it illegal to speculate on oil futures or restrict it, but news media are reporting that \$3.00 of every gallon goes to speculators profits buying and selling.

CHRIS, *Idaho Falls.*

DEAR SENATOR: My husband and I own a small business in Lewiston, where we do print advertising and TV/Video productions (among other things). We live close to our business, so although our fuel prices have increased, it's not having a huge impact—YET. However, we frequently have to travel across or out of the state to shoot various jobs, and we are now having to charge such high travel expenses that we are at risk of losing some clients to production companies closer to their location, even though they would prefer to keep working with us. We are bidding on a job right now which falls in that category—a year ago we would have quoted them \$200 for mileage, and now we have to quote almost \$500. Obviously this will impact our bottom line by the end of the year—something that we really can't afford.

BOBRI, *Lewiston.*

SENATOR CRAPO: I would guess that my story is different than the story you were looking for.

In 1974 I graduated from the University of California with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering.

The height of the first real Oil Crisis created by OPEC.

Because of the skyrocketing price of gasoline, gas lines, and shortages, I purchased a manual transmission diesel Volkswagen for \$7,500. That car on average got 52 miles per gallon. Diesel is a cheap byproduct of gasoline refinement. At that time, it cost ½ the price of gasoline per gallon.

Tell me why it costs more than gasoline now?

A few weeks after graduation, I was granted a full scholarship to continue engineering graduate school at UC.

In 1979 I graduated from UC with a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering, my specialty: thermodynamics, energy, and materials science. My thesis was on the extraction of heat energy from hot geothermal brine solutions.

I started working for a startup company purchased by Weyerhaeuser. My project was researching burning lignite (dirty coal) in a fluidized bed reactor to produce clean coal energy. It included the removal of NO_x, SO_x, and high temperature particulate down below the submicron size.

My research burned one train car load of lignite (environmentally the worst coal to burn with the lowest heating value) from

West Virginia, in Menlo Park, CA every day 24/7 for nearly 9 months performing experiments under contract with the US DOE. Our work was successful but went no further. During the operation of that combustion system and the associated experiments we passed all EPA combustion gas stream standards. That company years later went bankrupt. I left after 2 years to join Hewlett Packard in their computer systems group. For the past 25 years I've been involved in semiconductor manufacturing.

Thirty years have passed and sadly our government is no closer to a long term proactive energy policy than it was in 1979.

It is a national disgrace and one day will be a national disaster which will make the Great Depression pale in comparison.

PLEASE, wait no longer. Turning food stocks into ethanol, waiting for cheap solar, and looking to the wind to solve this global crisis is beyond ridiculous.

Drill now in ANWR, Drill off the Coasts of Florida, and California, Turn on the clean coal industry and liquefy coal for fuel, build as many nuclear power plants as fast as possible (then maybe we can avoid the energy depression). I don't believe we have another 30 years to gamble away.

Regards,

LARRY, *Eagle.*

MIKE, I really believe that we don't need to find alternative fuels. America is set up to burn petroleum based products and there are so many drawbacks to all of the "bio" fuels. We have lots of oil right off of our own coasts and in the Gulf on Mexico, ANWR and North and South Dakota with oil shale.

Our problem to being independent is not supply, Arabs or the environment! It's Congress and the wacko left enviro crowd who would rather see us all on bicycles!

I'm 62 years old and I DO ride a bicycle. However, like you mentioned in your opening letter, bikes don't work all the time in Idaho. Matter of fact between October and June, they suck! We had 2" of snow in Moscow on June 10th this year.

Congress needs to just get out of the way and let industry do its thing.

Mike, I realize you're only one Senator from a little-known state out West that doesn't matter to everybody East of the Mississippi River but some how we have to find the courage to stand up to the liberal Dems before our economy state and country are turned into a Third World European nightmare like B. H. O is designing.

Sincerely,

DAVE, *Moscow.*

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT LINGENFELTER

● Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, today I recognize Robert Lingenfelter, affectionately known as "Link," for being named Delaware History Teacher of the Year by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and Preserve America. Link has dedicated his life to the thousands of school children whose lives he has touched as a teacher, as a coach and as a mentor.

The History Teacher of the Year Award, now in its fifth year, was designed to promote and celebrate the teaching of American history in classrooms across our Nation. The award honors one exceptional teacher from each State and U.S. territory. The selection of the State winner is based upon several criteria, including a deep