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FEDERAL ENERGY ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20461

May 24, 1976

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

MEMORANDUM FOR MIKE DUVAL

FROM: FRANK G. ZARB *3*

As you requested, attached is the insert for the President's speech on energy.

Attachment

*No good - Very weak.
Site*

(Energy Speech)



PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH INSERT

One of the most difficult issues I have had to face as President is our energy problem. The Arab oil embargo of 1973 painfully illustrated the effects of growing dependence on foreign oil. By the action of a small group of oil producing nations, a large part of our supply was cut off, our prices were increased sharply, and our economy was damaged.

With the disappearance of gasoline lines and continuing adjustments to higher energy prices, many people have either forgotten or no longer believe that our energy problem is still extremely critical. Domestic oil and gas production is declining, nuclear power is coming under increasing attack, and energy consumption continues to rise.

Many have offered simple solutions to solve our energy problems. Some suggest cutting energy growth to zero, but they ignore the simple fact that a growing population and expanding economy need more energy and that we need all possible sources if we are to satisfy those needs. Others suggest that the Government take over energy production, but they fail to realize what that would mean to our free enterprise system or the effects it could have on our ability to provide the energy resources we need for security and economic stability.

STATE
STRONGER

As I have said before, there are no easy answers. Anyone who has a simple, quick, and painless solution to the energy



problem, does not fully understand the problem. Energy is a complex issue and is interdependent with other vital issues -- such as the economy, the environment and the stability of our lifestyle.

My commitment to a strong energy program is clear. In my first State of the Union Message, I dedicated this Administration to achieving a comprehensive energy program to make this Nation energy independent by 1985.

I set specific goals at that time:

- to halt our growing oil import dependence in the near-term;
- to attain energy independence in the mid-term by achieving invulnerability to disruption from another oil import embargo;
- to mobilize U.S. technology and resource to supply a significant share of the Free World's energy needs in the long term.

Energy independence does not mean zero imports or isolationism. It means reducing our vulnerability to an embargo to the point where this Nation could adequately handle a supply cutoff without adverse impacts.

The Ford energy program is designed to accomplish the following basic things: increase domestic supply; encourage energy conservation; and prepare ourselves for any future embargoes. Measures to accomplish these objectives were the basis of my Energy Independence Act of 1975. Almost half of



the 13 measures contained in that bill are now law, and several more pieces are moving toward enactment. Don't believe everything you hear -- we are making progress.

Congress has passed the following measures which I originally proposed in my State of the Union Message:

- a national strategic petroleum reserve to provide a stockpile for future embargoes;
- production from our Naval Petroleum Reserves;
- standby allocation, rationing and other authorities for use in the event of another embargo;
- conservation measures to improve energy efficiency by affixing energy labels on appliances and autos;
- extension of the Federal Government's authority to require utility and industrial conversion to coal from oil and gas.

Even these few measures, however, would not have been enacted by the Congress without ^{the} ~~my~~ constant pressure and ^{I have} ~~asserted~~ leadership.

There is still a long way to go. Most of the measures I proposed to the Congress have yet to be enacted by the Congress. Of particular importance are:

- removal of Federal regulatory controls from natural gas;
- expedited construction of an Alaskan gas transportation system to bring almost one trillion



- cubic feet of natural gas to markets in the continental United States;
- balancing of environmental concerns with coal production and use while doubling coal production in the next 10 years;
 - expanded use of nuclear power;
 - increased funding for research on conservation technologies and solar energy, along with other emerging sources such as geothermal and fusion power and synthetic oil and gas from coal;
 - utilization of our vast oil shale reserves;
 - provide financial stimulus for new energy projects and expedite the development of all energy facilities;
 - restoration of the financial health of public utilities;
 - tax credits to homeowners for insulating their homes;
 - \$55 million-a-year program to help low-income and elderly consumers insulate their homes;
 - thermal standards for new homes and commercial buildings.

I have also sought to reduce unnecessary Government energy regulation. Government regulation breeds inefficiency and is often worse than the problem it is trying to solve. ~~At my~~

~~direction, FEA has a vigorous program underway in this area.~~

As I have said, some of my energy program has already been enacted into law, and I have taken all feasible administrative steps to get moving, but much remains to be done. I call upon the Congress to enact the rest of my program.

~~I also call upon Congress to pass a Joint Resolution expressing the sense of Congress that energy independence is a crucial national goal. This will demonstrate not only to the American people, but to other nations, that we are serious about achieving energy independence and that we have the resolve to accomplish it.~~

~~Just as importantly, it will provide a basic cooperative framework within which the Executive and Legislative Branches can reach agreement on the importance of achieving these energy goals.~~

