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Attached are talking points on the President's comprehensive energy plan he will unveil tomorrow. Please forward to your constituencies after 7 p.m. tonight. Thanks.

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# Energy For the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – The President's New Comprehensive Plan

- America has a serious energy shortage and President Bush has a comprehensive plan to address it.
- The President wants to protect consumers from wild fluctuations in energy prices by diversifying America's energy supply. America has become too dependent on foreign oil. The President wants to use 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology to lower consumer energy bills by producing a diversity of clean and affordable energy.
- The President is concerned about the Americans who are feeling the energy crunch. He is doing everything he can – as soon as he can -- to help Americans who are feeling the energy crunch at the gas pump and in their utility bills. The President is using every tool at his disposal to help those who are suffering from blackouts and high gas prices. He is helping California this summer by expediting new power plants and ordering federal agencies to conserve. The President is also earmarking federal energy revenues to help low-income families cope with high energy and gas bills.
- The President's plan to produce more reliable, affordable and environmentally clean energy is built on 3 core principles:
  - ✓ The plan is comprehensive and forward-looking.
  - ✓ It utilizes 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology to allow us to promote conservation and diversify our energy supply.
  - ✓ The plan will increase the quality of life of Americans by providing reliable energy and protecting the environment.
- The President's 170-page plan is comprehensive, containing 105 specific recommendations:
  - ✓ 42 of the recommendations will help modernize and increase conservation, protect our environment and help our communities.
  - ✓ 35 of the recommendations will help diversity our supply of clean, affordable energy and modernize our antiquated infrastructure.
  - ✓ 25 of the recommendations will help the US strengthen its global alliances and enhance national energy security.
  - ✓ 12 of the recommendations can be implemented by executive action or Executive Order.
  - ✓ 73 of the recommendations are directives to federal agencies.
  - ✓ 20 are recommendations for action by Congress.
- The President's leadership comes at a crucial time. Americans are hurting today, but tomorrow will be tougher if we don't unite around a comprehensive energy policy. Over the next 20 years US oil consumption will increase by 33% and demand for electricity will rise by 45%. Future energy demand is going to vastly outstrip our supply if no action is taken. The President wants to unify our nation around a comprehensive energy plan that protects consumers. The quicker we act on a comprehensive plan, the sooner we can provide relief to consumers.
- The President's plan harnesses the best of America's technology to help produce clean, dependable and affordable energy. America can't meet tomorrow's energy needs with yesterday's infrastructure. Just as the Internet has made our information more convenient, new technology can make our energy cleaner, cheaper and more efficient.
- The President's plan invests in exciting new energy technology that will **help expand our economy, promote conservation and protect our environment at the same time.**
- The President wants to sign comprehensive tax relief by Memorial Day to put money back in the pockets of consumers who need help paying their gas and utility bills.



# The President's Comprehensive Energy Plan

- ◆ **Modernize & Increase Conservation.** Expand conservation by increasing funding for energy efficiency programs, encouraging the development of fuel-efficient vehicles, creating tax credits to encourage consumer conservation, and expanding DOE conservation programs.
- ◆ **Modernize and Expand Our Energy Infrastructure.** Outdated regulations have frozen America into an antiquated energy supply network designed for 1950 – not 2050. The President's plan will help create a new, high-tech energy delivery network by expediting permitting for infrastructure improvements, expanding research on reliable energy transmission, and tearing down regulatory barriers that hurt consumers by preventing them from having lower energy bills and more dependable energy.
- ◆ **Diversify Energy Supplies.** Deploy latest technologies to increase environmentally-friendly exploration and production of domestic energy resources to diversify our supply. The President's plan invests in new energy technology; expands the use of alternative and renewable energy such as wind, solar, biomass and geothermal energy; and provides for the safe expansion of nuclear energy.
- ◆ **Improve & Accelerate Environmental Protection.** New anti-pollution technologies now allow us to increase our energy production while protecting our environment. The President's strategy will cut harmful emissions from electric power plants and increase funding for clean coal research. An integrated approach can yield a cleaner environment, a stronger economy and a sufficient supply of energy for the future.
- ◆ **Strengthen America's Energy Security.** The President wants to protect Americans – especially low-income Americans -- from wild fluctuations in energy prices and supply by helping low-income families with heating and cooling assistance, reducing America's dependence on foreign oil and building strong relationships with energy producing nations in our own hemisphere.