

March, 21 2022

The Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor of Pennsylvania
508 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

The Honorable Bryan Cutler,
Speaker
Pennsylvania House of
Representatives
139 Main Capitol Building
P.O. Box 202100
Harrisburg, PA 17120

The Honorable John K.
Fetterman, President
Pennsylvania State Senate
200 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Wolf, Speaker Cutler and President Fetterman:

Consumer Energy Alliance (CEA) strongly urge you to join the chorus of voices calling for the immediate ramp up of domestic oil and natural gas production to ensure Americans have access to reliable and affordable energy resources necessary to survive. We can save families and small business across the Commonwealth and the entire nation from the uncertainty of imported energy while accelerating innovation in traditional and renewable energy sources alike.

Consumer Energy Alliance (CEA) is the largest third-party organization representing the voice of the energy consumer. With more than 550,000 members nationwide, CEA's mission is to help ensure stable prices, advances in environmental performance, national energy security, and energy reliability for households and businesses across the country. CEA's members include families, farmers, small businesses, distributors, producers, organized labor, and manufacturers all coming together as a broad organization to support America's environmentally sustainable energy future. Since 2006, CEA has worked to encourage people across the nation to seek sensible, realistic, affordable, and environmentally responsible solutions to meet our daily energy needs.

CEA is focused on a realistic energy policy strategy that advances our shared environmental goals while maintaining affordable and reliable energy, and recognizing that we will need "all-of-the-above" solutions to meeting our national and individual energy needs. CEA promotes environmentally sound policies to utilize all of our natural resources responsibly. This includes all traditional and alternative resources as well as energy-efficient technologies to move our economy and power the lives of our communities and neighbors – many of whom are struggling to make ends meet.

During President Biden's first month in office, he paused oil and gas leasing on federal lands and waters. He denied approved leasing plans in the National Petroleum Reserve Alaska (NPR-A) and imposed sweeping regulatory measures across several federal agencies designed to frustrate energy production and its related infrastructure development. From Inauguration Day 2021 to the week preceding the invasion of Ukraine, the average retail price for U.S. gasoline already increased more than \$1.10 per gallon. While the Russian invasion has further increased gasoline prices, it is clear that we already had a problem with our energy policy.

While the U.S. has placed stringent regulatory burdens on domestic energy development, Russia has become the third largest producer of oil in the world. Current U.S. production is almost 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd) below peak levels from November 2019, when oil averaged \$63.21 per barrel. Over the past year, the U.S. has increased its imports of Russian oil substantially, reaching a high of 870,000 bpd in May 2021. While the President has announced a ban on future imports from Russia, we are

currently still importing more than 500,000 per day. At current oil prices, this equates to approximately \$67 million per day.

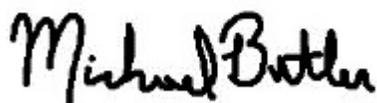
Oil and gas production on federal and Tribal lands as well as offshore areas generated \$8.78 billion in Fiscal Year 2021. These funds enable states and Tribes to pursue local conservation projects.

A paradoxical trend has emerged across Europe and Asia as nations have punitively regulated natural gas and must now rely on higher emitting resources to balance intermittent energy sources. Natural gas production and transportation must not be encumbered by regulations that do not consider economic or environmental impacts.

Natural gas is essential to Pennsylvanians. The commonwealth relies on natural gas for much of its utility-scale generation and enjoys electricity rates lower than the national average across the residential, consumer and industrial sectors. Policies similar to the Green New Deal that decommission reliable and affordable energy resources will only exacerbate high consumer costs. As currently proposed, the Green New Deal would cost consumers nationwide \$258 billion for only four household appliances.

CEA urges your support for policies to increase domestic energy production of all forms. This will be achieved by ending the pause on oil and gas leasing on federal lands and waters and expediting the permitting and deployment of domestic energy resources. We must focus on the shared goal of affordable, reliable and environmentally responsible energy for all American families and small businesses.

Sincerely,



Michael Butler
Mid-Atlantic Executive Director
Consumer Energy Alliance