



Jay Timmons

*Senior Vice President
for Policy and Government Relations*

August 2, 2007

United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives:

The National Association of Manufacturers was greatly disappointed to see a last minute addition to Title VII of H.R. 3221, the New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security and Consumer Protection Act, that would shut-off trillions of cubic feet of natural gas supplies

The Blue Dog Energy Principles released earlier this year highlight rate stability, access and affordability as key priorities for energy security and economic growth. The impact of H.R. 3221 will be the opposite of this common-sense approach. **We urge you to vote no.**

Earlier this year, the NAM testified before the House Natural Resources Committee expressing our opposition to Subtitles A and B of Title VII. We operated on a good faith basis while working within the committee process in an effort to have those subtitles removed.

Now, with no committee process or the ability of stakeholders to comment, Subtitles E and F were slipped into the bill under the cover of night. These last-minute insertions took a bad title and made it worse. The volatile price for natural gas, which is an essential building block in many manufacturing processes, continues to present manufacturers with very difficult business decisions.

Congress has been presented with a basic challenge of lowering energy cost by way of responsible exploration of domestic energy. Instead, Title VII would slow, delay and terminate new production resulting in higher prices for consumers. Just one of these new provisions, would bar production on federal lands on the Roan Plateau in Colorado, which has been estimated to hold as much as 9 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, enough to serve 9 million homes for 9 years. The Clinton Administration transferred the lands from the Department of Energy to the Bureau of Land Management for the express purpose of developing the rich gas reserves in the Plateau.

Members of Congress are being asked to support a bill that would result in higher energy costs, fewer energy supplies, a weakened domestic energy industry, and more job losses for U.S. factory workers.

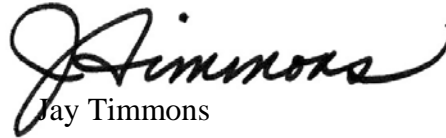
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As the voice of over 14 million manufacturing workers in the United States, the NAM respectfully asks that you oppose H.R. 3221 and urge the House leadership to bring legislation to the floor that is more in line with the Blue Dog Energy Principles.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Jay Timmons