



Agriculture Energy Alliance

Representing agriculture as a producer and consumer of energy

June 26, 2007

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Interior-Environment Appropriations Bill

- **Support Peterson Amendments on Offshore Natural Gas Production**
- **Oppose Salazar Amendment on Roan Plateau of Colorado – Natural Gas Production**

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

The 113 members of the Agriculture Energy Alliance oppose any amendments to the Interior Appropriations Bill that would result in decreasing or slowing down new production of onshore or offshore natural gas. The AEA worked very hard to support several provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 that would address the increased price and supply of natural gas so critical to U.S. agriculture. We also worked very diligently to secure new supplies of natural gas by supporting S. 3711, a bill that opened up new supply of energy in the Outer Continental Shelf.

AEA supports amendments to the Interior Appropriations bill offered by Congressman Peterson (R-PA) that would allow for additional offshore natural gas production. AEA also opposes an amendment that may be offered by Congressman Salazar (D-CO) related to onshore production of natural gas. The Salazar amendment would stop production in the Roan Plateau in Colorado, an area already approved for production by the Bureau of Land Management. It is estimated that the Roan Plateau contains approximately 8.9 TCF of natural gas, more natural gas than is anticipated to be available in Area 181 in the Gulf of Mexico that was included in last year's energy bill.

Our business is to grow abundant food and fiber for America and people around the world. Experts say that food production will need to double in the next 20 years to meet rising global demand. But today, tight natural gas supplies have driven U.S. farm inputs and energy prices to all time highs, cutting farm income. The U.S. farm sector is being weakened by constraints on onshore and offshore energy development, even as global demand for food is growing every year. By wisely developing and utilizing our own national resources, Congress can help ensure that farming remains an economically viable occupation.

Onshore and offshore energy production is a vote for food security. The farm sector depends on significant amounts of energy for food processing, irrigation, crop drying, heating farm buildings and homes and the production of crop protection chemicals and fertilizer.

We urge you to support Congressman Peterson's amendments allowing for additional offshore natural gas production and to oppose the Salazar Roan Plateau amendment. Additional supply of American energy resources is critical to maintaining a competitive agricultural sector.

Sincerely,

Members of the Agriculture Energy Alliance

Agribusiness Association of Iowa
Agribusiness Council of Indiana
Agricultural Council of California
Agricultural Retailers Assn.
Agriliance, LLC
Agrium Inc.
Alabama Crop Management Assn.
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Plant Food Corporation
American Soybean Assn.
Arkansas Plant Food Assn.
Ben-Trei Ltd.
Brandt Consolidated
CF Industries
CHS Inc.
California League of Food Processors
Chemical Industry Council of Illinois
CoBank (CO)
Colorado Farm Bureau
Colorado Grain & Feed Assn.
Crop Production Services
CropLife America
D.B. Western, Inc.—Texas
Delaware Maryland Agribusiness Assn.
Diamond of California
Fairfield Index Inc.
Far West Agribusiness Assn. (WA)
Florida Fertilizer & Agrichemical Assn.
Florida Strawberry Growers Assn.
Georgia Agribusiness Council, Inc.
Georgia Feed & Grain Assn., Inc.
GROWMARK, Inc.
Hardee County Frm Bureau (FL)
Hartung Brothers, Inc.
Hawaiian Alliance for Responsible
Technology & Science
Helena Chemical Company
Hillsborough County Agriculture Economic
Development Council (FL)
Hillsborough County Farm Bureau (FL)
Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Assn.

Indiana Grain & Feed Association
Indiana Plant Food & Ag Chemicals Assn.
Intermountain Farmers Assn.
International Chemical Corporation
International Commodities Export Corp.
International Raw Materials Ltd.
Iowa Institute for Cooperatives
JR Simplot Company
Jim Hicks & Company
Johnston Seed Company
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Assn.
Kansas Grain and Feed Assn.
Land O' Lakes, Inc.
Louisiana Ammonia Producers
MFA Incorporated
Mayo Fertilizer Inc.
Michigan Agri-Business Assn.
Minnesota Agri-Growth Council
Minnesota Crop Production Retailers
Missouri Ag Industries Council, Inc.
Monsanto Company
Montana Agricultural Business Assn.
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Barley Growers Assn.
National Chicken Council
National Corn Growers Assn.
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Grange
National Renderers Association, Inc.
National Sorghum Producers
National Sunflower Assn.
National Turkey Federation
Nebraska Agri-Business Assn.
North Dakota Agricultural Assn.
Northern Ag Suppliers, Inc.
Oklahoma Ag Retailers
Oregon Farm Bureau
Oregon Wheat Growers League
Pennsylvania Assn. of Milk Dealers
Plant Food Association of North
Carolina, Inc.

Polk County Farm Bureau
PotashCorp
Rocky Mountain Agri-Business Assn. (CO)
Sarasota County Farm Bureau (FL)
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Society of American Florists
South Carolina Fertilizer and
Agrichemical Assn.
South Dakota Agri-Business Assn.
Southern Crop Production Assn. (GA)
Southern States Cooperative, Inc.
Tennessee Agricultural Production Assn.
Tennessee Farmers Cooperative
Terra Industries
Texas Ag Industries Assn.
Texas Agricultural Cooperative Council
Texas Grain & Feed Assn.
The Andersons, Inc.
The Fertilizer Institute
The McGregor Company
The Mosaic Company

3-D Fertilizer
U.S. Canola Assn.
USA Rice Federation
United Suppliers, Inc.
Virginia Crop Production Assn.
Virginia Poultry Federation, Inc.
W.B. Johnston Grain Company
Washington Association of Wheat Growers
Washington State Council of Farmer
Cooperatives
West Central Inc.
Western Peanut Growers Association (TX)
Western Plant Health Association (CA)
Wheeler Bros. Grain and Fertilizer Co.
Willard Agri-Service of Frederick, Inc. (MD)
Wisconsin Crop Production Association

Cc: Members, U.S. House of Representatives