

From: [Macintyre, Douglas](#)
To: [O'Hearn, Chris](#); [Thomas, Edna](#)
Cc: [Perry, Robert](#)
Subject: RE: For Doug: CESER FY23 Budget Briefing Slides
Date: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 3:56:00 PM

Chris called me and I told her I sent it to the group email that she was not on. I appreciate her checking up to make sure it got there!

Doug

From: O'Hearn, Chris <sandra.ohearn@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 3:03 PM
To: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>; Thomas, Edna <edna.thomas@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Perry, Robert <robert.perry2@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: For Doug: CESER FY23 Budget Briefing Slides

Doug,

Does the corrected version need to be sent to Bill?

Chris

From: O'Hearn, Chris
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 2:04 PM
To: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>; Thomas, Edna <Edna.Thomas@Hq.Doe.Gov>
Cc: Perry, Robert <robert.perry2@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: For Doug: CESER FY23 Budget Briefing Slides

Doug,

It should be (b) (5) [REDACTED]. I have made the correction on this copy.

Chris

From: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 1:56 PM
To: O'Hearn, Chris <sandra.ohearn@hq.doe.gov>; Thomas, Edna <edna.thomas@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Perry, Robert <robert.perry2@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: FW: For Doug: CESER FY23 Budget Briefing Slides

(b) (5)

Doug

From: Harris-Cameron, Maya <Maya.Harris-Cameron@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 1:38 PM
To: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Lauer, William <william.lauer@hq.doe.gov>; Lahneman, William <william.lahneman@hq.doe.gov>; Thomas, Edna <edna.thomas@hq.doe.gov>; Perry, Robert <robert.perry2@hq.doe.gov>; Everett, Jazmin <jazmin.everett@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: For Doug: CESER FY23 Budget Briefing Slides

Doug,

Please see the highlighted comment from OMB below and confirm that OPR's slides are good to go.

Many thanks,

Maya Harris-Cameron
Congressional Liaison
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of the Chief Financial Officer
Office of Budget, External Coordination
Phone: 202-586-7607
(Teleworking at (b) (6))

From: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 1:28 PM
To: Lauer, William <william.lauer@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Lahneman, William <william.lahneman@hq.doe.gov>; Souers, Alan <alan.souers@hq.doe.gov>; Harris-Cameron, Maya <Maya.Harris-Cameron@hq.doe.gov>; Giamo, Daniel M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6) >
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: CESER FY23 Budget Briefing Slides

This looks fine to me, thanks.

(b) (5)

From: Lauer, William <william.lauer@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 1:14 PM
To: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6) >
Cc: Lahneman, William <william.lahneman@hq.doe.gov>; Souers, Alan <alan.souers@hq.doe.gov>; Harris-Cameron, Maya <Maya.Harris-Cameron@hq.doe.gov>; Giamo, Daniel M. EOP/OMB

(b) (6)

Subject: RE: CESER FY23 Budget Briefing Slides

Jeptha, here's the revised deck, do you clear it?

respectfully, Bill
William L. Lauer
Analyst
U.S. Department of Energy
The Chief Financial Officer
Office of Budget (CF-31)
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585-1290
Tel: (202) 586-9931
william.lauer@hq.doe.gov

From: Nafziger, Jeptha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>

Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 5:13 PM

To: Lauer, William <william.lauer@hq.doe.gov>

Cc: Lahneman, William <william.lahneman@hq.doe.gov>; Souers, Alan <alan.souers@hq.doe.gov>; Harris-Cameron, Maya <Maya.Harris-Cameron@hq.doe.gov>; Giamo, Daniel M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: CESER FY23 Budget Briefing Slides

(b) (5)

From: Lauer, William <william.lauer@hq.doe.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 3:42 PM

To: Nafziger, Jeptha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>

Cc: Lahneman, William <william.lahneman@hq.doe.gov>; Souers, Alan <alan.souers@hq.doe.gov>; Harris-Cameron, Maya <Maya.Harris-Cameron@hq.doe.gov>; Giamo, Daniel M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>

Subject: RE: CESER FY23 Budget Briefing Slides

Jeptha,

For slide 11 on the Petroleum Account, the program says: (b) (5)

[Redacted content]

Would you like that slide revised?

respectfully, Bill
William L. Lauer
Analyst
U.S. Department of Energy
The Chief Financial Officer
Office of Budget (CF-31)
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585-1290
Tel: (202) 586-9931
william.lauer@hq.doe.gov

From: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 2:26 PM
To: Lauer, William <william.lauer@hq.doe.gov>; Giamo, Daniel M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>
Cc: Lahneman, William <william.lahneman@hq.doe.gov>; Souers, Alan <alan.souers@hq.doe.gov>; Harris-Cameron, Maya <Maya.Harris-Cameron@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: CESER FY23 Budget Briefing Slides

Comments/edits on OPR Section:

(b) (5)

I believe Dan is ok with the CESER section, FYI.
Thanks,

Jeptha

From: Lauer, William <william.lauer@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 12:09 PM
To: Nafziger, Jeptha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Giamo, Daniel M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>
Cc: Lahneman, William <william.lahneman@hq.doe.gov>; Souers, Alan <alan.souers@hq.doe.gov>; Harris-Cameron, Maya <Maya.Harris-Cameron@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: CESER FY23 Budget Briefing Slides

Gents, here is CESER’s and OPR’s deck for your review and approval.

respectfully, Bill
William L. Lauer
Analyst
U.S. Department of Energy
The Chief Financial Officer
Office of Budget (CF-31)
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585-1290
Tel: (202) 586-9931
william.lauer@hq.doe.gov

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From: [Vahlsing, Candace M. EOP/OMB](#)
To: [Bartol, Bridget](#); [Troiano, Charisma L](#); [Hochstein, Amos J](#); [Turk, David](#); (b) (6) [Berner, Kate K. EOP/WHO](#); (b) (6) [Hansmann, Lisa S. EOP/WHO](#); [Walsh, Samuel](#); [Ramamurti, Bharat R. EOP/WHO](#); [Aron-Dine, Aviva R. EOP/OMB](#)
Cc: [Bhattacharyya, Arpita](#); [Nakagawa, Melanie Y. EOP/NSC](#); [Beck, Nico D. EOP/NSC](#); [Mayorga, David](#); [Davis, Christopher](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: SPR Buyback
Date: Monday, June 6, 2022 4:09:42 PM
Attachments: [SPR Sales questions.docx](#)

Coming back to this. We received a bunch of question on the SPR legislative changes.

Team DOE – Can you guys provide answers by tomorrow?

From: Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 5, 2022 2:14 PM
To: Troiano, Charisma L <charisma.troiano@hq.doe.gov>; Hochstein, Amos J <HochsteinAJ@state.gov>; Turk, David <david.turk@hq.doe.gov>; Kamin, David C. EOP/WHO (b) (6) ; Berner, Kate K. EOP/WHO (b) (6) ; Viswanathan, Vivek EOP/WHO (b) (6) ; Hansmann, Lisa S. EOP/WHO (b) (6) ; Walsh, Samuel <samuel.walsh@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Bhattacharyya, Arpita <arpita.bhattacharyya@hq.doe.gov>; Vahlsing, Candace M. EOP/OMB (b) (6) ; Nakagawa, Melanie Y. EOP/NSC (b) (6) ; Beck, Nico D. EOP/NSC (b) (6) ; Mayorga, David <david.mayorga@hq.doe.gov>; Davis, Christopher <christopher.davis@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: SPR Buyback

Sharing amplification from Bordoff:



Jason Bordoff
@JasonBordoff



The SPR is a key national security tool, so it's a good move—after using it to help offset the loss of Russian oil & escalate pressure on Putin—for Biden admin to fulfill its pledge to refill the SPR, which also signals to US producers to ramp up much-needed supply in near term.

[5/5/22, 1:57 PM](#)

Bridget Bartol

Deputy Chief of Staff

U.S. Department of Energy

Bridget.Bartol@hq.doe.gov | 240-268-4214

Pronouns: She/her/hers

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(b)

(5)

(b) (5)

From: [Bartol, Bridget](#)
To: [Macintyre, Douglas](#); [Zevin, Avi](#)
Subject: RE: [FOR AWARENESS] Strategic Petroleum Reserve Language
Date: Monday, August 22, 2022 2:41:53 PM

Thanks, Doug. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

From: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 2:35 PM
To: Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>; Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: [FOR AWARENESS] Strategic Petroleum Reserve Language

(b) (5)

Doug

From: Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 2:33 PM
To: Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>; Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: Re: [FOR AWARENESS] Strategic Petroleum Reserve Language

(b) (5)

Avi Zevin
Deputy General Counsel for Energy Policy
Office of General Counsel | U.S. Department of Energy
avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov | 202-586-2703
(he/him/his)

From: Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 2:31 PM
To: Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>; Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: FW: [FOR AWARENESS] Strategic Petroleum Reserve Language

[@Zevin, Avi](#) Is it? I'm not an expert here.

From: Viswanathan, Vivek EOP/WHO (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 2:30 PM

To ^{(b) (6)} [redacted] Nafziger, Jeptha E. EOP/OMB
<(b) (6) [redacted]>
Cc: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>; Hansmann, Lisa S. EOP/WHO
(b) (6) [redacted] McDonald, Christine A. EOP/OMB
<(b) (6) [redacted]>; Majumder, Bianca M. EOP/OMB
<(b) (6) [redacted]>; English, Leandra EOP/WHO
(b) (6) [redacted]; Mahoney, Neale A. EOP/WHO
(b) (6) [redacted]; Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>; Donley, Katherine
<katherine.donley@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: [FOR AWARENESS] Strategic Petroleum Reserve Language

Hi Candace, (b) (5) [redacted] – thank you
Jeptha for detailing for us. Would be interested in Doug’s idea whenever the time is right (b) (5)
[redacted] Thanks again.

Vivek

From: Vahlsing, Candace M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6) [redacted]>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 1:59 PM
To: Nafziger, Jeptha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6) [redacted]>
Cc: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>; Viswanathan, Vivek EOP/WHO
(b) (6) [redacted] Hansmann, Lisa S. EOP/WHO
(b) (6) [redacted]; McDonald, Christine A. EOP/OMB
<(b) (6) [redacted]>; Majumder, Bianca M. EOP/OMB
<(b) (6) [redacted]>; English, Leandra EOP/WHO
(b) (6) [redacted]; Mahoney, Neale A. EOP/WHO
(b) (6) [redacted]; Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>; Donley, Katherine
<katherine.donley@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: Re: [FOR AWARENESS] Strategic Petroleum Reserve Language

Hi Team -

(b) (5) [redacted]
[redacted] Is everyone okay with this version?

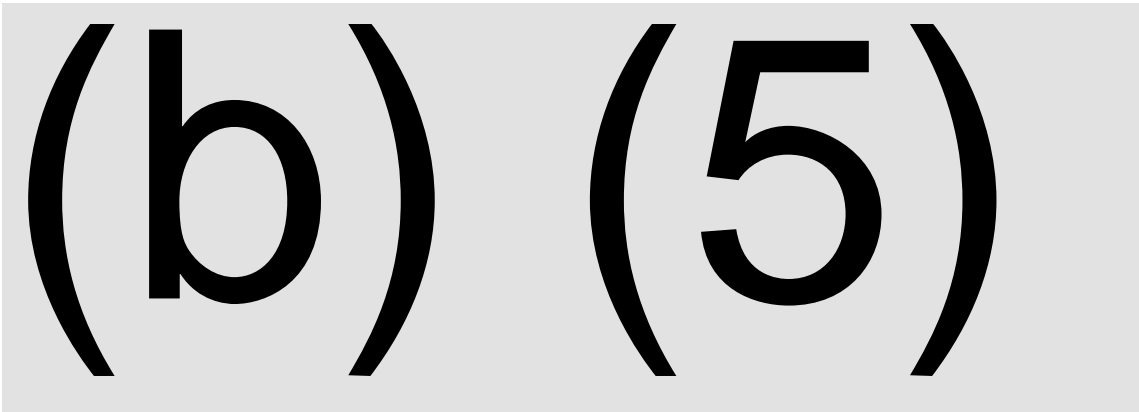
On Aug 22, 2022, at 12:23 PM, Nafziger, Jeptha E. EOP/OMB
<(b) (6) [redacted]> wrote:

Thanks, Doug. (b) (5) [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

From: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 12:18 PM
To: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Viswanathan, Vivek EOP/WHO (b) (6) Hansmann, Lisa S. EOP/WHO (b) (6)
Cc: McDonald, Christine A. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Vahlsing, Candace M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Majumder, Bianca M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; English, Leandra EOP/WHO (b) (6); Mahoney, Neale A. EOP/WHO (b) (6); Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>; Donley, Katherine <katherine.donley@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: [FOR AWARENESS] Strategic Petroleum Reserve Language

Thanks for copying me, Jephtha. I'm copying in Bridget Bartol and Katie Donley from DOE.



Doug

From: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 12:09 PM
To: (b) (6) Hansmann, Lisa S. EOP/WHO (b) (6)
Cc: McDonald, Christine A. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; (b) (6) Majumder, Bianca M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; English, Leandra EOP/WHO (b) (6); Mahoney, Neale A. EOP/WHO (b) (6); Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: [FOR AWARENESS] Strategic Petroleum Reserve Language

Copying Doug MacIntyre at the SPR office to confirm, (b) (5)

From: Viswanathan, Vivek EOP/WHO (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 11:59 AM
To: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Hansmann, Lisa S. EOP/WHO (b) (6)
Cc: McDonald, Christine A. EOP/OMB (b) (6) >; Vahlsing, Candace M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Majumder, Bianca M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; English, Leandra EOP/WHO (b) (6); Mahoney, Neale A. EOP/WHO (b) (6)
Subject: RE: [FOR AWARENESS] Strategic Petroleum Reserve Language

Hi Jephtha, thanks so much for this! Very good to know.

One follow-up –(b) (5)
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Appreciate the heads-up and thanks again,

Vivek

From: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 10:37 AM
To: Hansmann, Lisa S. EOP/WHO (b) (6) Viswanathan, Vivek EOP/WHO (b) (6)
Cc: McDonald, Christine A. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Vahlsing, Candace M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Majumder, Bianca M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>
Subject: [FOR AWARENESS] Strategic Petroleum Reserve Language

Hi Lisa/Vivek-
(b) (5)
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Please let me know of any questions, and feel free to forward as appropriate.
Thanks,
Jephtha

(b) (5)

Energy Branch
Office of Management and Budget
Phone: ((b) (6) [REDACTED])

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From: [Macintyre, Douglas](#)
To: [Koniczny, Katherine \(Kathy\)](#); [Toyozaki, Edward Y.](#); [O'shaughnessy, Kelly C](#)
Cc: [Perry, Robert](#)
Subject: FW: SPR Language
Date: Monday, August 29, 2022 7:12:00 PM

FYSA

From: Dick, John H. EOP/OMB (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 6:50 PM
To: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>; Lieberman, Andy K. EOP/OMB (b) (6); Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB (b) (6); Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: SPR Language

Thanks, Doug.

Just closing the loop. Below is the final language (b) (5)

Sec. ____ . STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE DRAWDOWN AND SALE.—

(a) Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015.—Section 403 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–74; 129 Stat. 589) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (7), by striking “during” and inserting “by the end of”; and

(B) in paragraph (8)—

(i) by striking “during” and inserting “by the end of”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

“(b) Any sale directed in paragraphs (7) or (8) of subsection (a) may be deferred, in whole or in part, to fiscal years 2031 and 2032, at the election of the Secretary.”.

(b) Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act.—Section 32204(a) of the FAST Act (Public Law 114–94; 129 Stat. 1740) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking “during” and inserting “by the end of”; and

(B) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) by striking “during” and inserting “by the end of”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

“(2) Any sale directed in subparagraphs (C) or (D) of paragraph (1) may be deferred, in whole or in part, to fiscal years 2031 and 2032, at the election of the Secretary.”; and

(4) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, by striking “paragraph (1)” and inserting “this subsection”.

(c) Reconciliation on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018.—Section 20003(a)(1) of Public Law 115–97 (131 Stat. 2237) is amended by striking “during the period of fiscal years 2026 through 2027” and inserting “by the end of fiscal year 2027”.

(d) Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018.—Section 30204(a) of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law

115–123; 132 Stat. 126) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “during” and inserting “by the end of”; and

(B) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by striking “during” and inserting “by the end of”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new subparagraph:

“(2) Any sale directed in subparagraphs (B) or (C) of paragraph (1) may be deferred, in whole or in part, to fiscal years 2031 and 2032 at the election of the Secretary.”; and

(4) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, by striking “paragraph (1)” and inserting “this subsection”.

(e) America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018.—Section 3009(a)(1) of America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–270; 132 Stat. 3870) is amended by striking “during” and inserting “by the end of”.

(f) Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.—Section 90002(a) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58; 135 Stat. 1342) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “during the period of fiscal years 2028 through 2031” and inserting “by the end of fiscal year 2032”; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “during the period of fiscal years 2028 through 2031”.

(g) Amounts provided by this section are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to the concurrent resolution on the budget.

John Dick

Office of Management and Budget - Energy Branch

Desk Phone: (b) (6)

Cell Phone: (b) (6)

Email: (b) (6)

Core Hours: 9AM-5PM

From: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>

Sent: Friday, August 26, 2022 6:20 PM

To: Dick, John H. EOP/OMB (b) (6); Lieberman, Andy K. EOP/OMB

(b) (6); Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>

Cc: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB (b) (6); Bartol, Bridget

<bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>

Subject: RE: SPR Language

John and others,

(b) (5)

delayed response.

Sorry for the

Doug

From: Dick, John H. EOP/OMB (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, August 26, 2022 4:27 PM

To: Lieberman, Andy K. EOP/OMB (b) (6) >; Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>; Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB (b) (6) >; Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: SPR Language
Importance: High

All,

Please respond ASAP: (b) (5)

Best,
John

John Dick

Office of Management and Budget - Energy Branch

Desk Phone: (b) (6)

Cell Phone (b) (6)

Email: (b) (6)

Core Hours: 8:30 to 4:30

From: Lieberman, Andy K. EOP/OMB <(b) (6) >
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 2:31 PM
To: Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>; Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>; Dick, John H. EOP/OMB <(b) (6) >
Cc: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6) >; Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: SPR Language

This clarification was very helpful, thank you for the quick response.

From: Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 1:24 PM
To: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>; Lieberman, Andy K. EOP/OMB <(b) (6) >; Dick, John H. EOP/OMB <(b) (6) >
Cc: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6) >; Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: Re: SPR Language

+Bridget for vis

John, Andy:

(b) (5)

Avi Zevin
Deputy General Counsel for Energy Policy
Office of General Counsel | U.S. Department of Energy
avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov | 202-586-2703
(he/him/his)

From: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 1:19 PM
To: Lieberman, Andy K. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Dick, John H. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>
Subject: RE: SPR Language

Before I get out in front of my skis, I will defer to Avi.

From: Lieberman, Andy K. EOP/OMB (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 1:18 PM
To: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>; Dick, John H. EOP/OMB (b) (6); Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB (b) (6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: SPR Language

Thanks Doug. (b) (5)

[Redacted signature block]

(b) (5)

We appreciate the clarification.

Best,
Andy

From: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 1:03 PM

To: Dick, John H. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>

Cc: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Lieberman, Andy K. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>

Subject: RE: SPR Language

John,

Great question! (b) (5)

Doug

From: Dick, John H. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>

Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 12:34 PM

To: Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>; Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>

Cc: Nafziger, Jephtha E. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Lieberman, Andy K. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] SPR Language

Doug and Avi,

I am filling in for Jephtha this week and have a question about the (b) (5)

Best,

John

John Dick

Office of Management and Budget - Energy Branch

Desk Phone: (b) (6)

Cell Phone: (b) (6)

Email (b) (6)

Core Hours: 8:30 to 4:30

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From: [Graham, Kareemah \(CONTR\)](#)
To: [McGarry, Thomas](#)
Cc: [Turner, Shenee](#)
Subject: eDOCS: FOR YOUR ACTION - Program Office Review - EXEC-2022-007702
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 4:21:55 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[EXEC-2022-007702 - incoming - Boebert and Miller plus 9 other Members of Congress.pdf](#)
[EXEC-2022-007702 - incoming - Boebert and Miller plus 9 other Members of Congress1.pdf](#)

Good Afternoon Tom,
Please see the attached incoming correspondence:

From: Lauren Boebert and (9) other Member's of Congress
Email to: Secretary Jennifer Granholm
Subject: Writes regarding American oil production and the rising cost of energy
Program Determination Due Date: 11/21/22

Please Note: ** A response is not required unless instructed.*
CR-40 is responsible for informing CESER ES whether or not we decide to respond for tracking purposes. Please reply with our decision by the Program Determination due date.

All internal OPR Actions will be prepared using SharePoint. If you decide a response is necessary, I will share this Action with Action Documents via SharePoint for collective collaboration.

Thank you for your response.

Kareemah Graham, M.S.
Program Assistant
Contractor to the U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER)
Office of Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPR)
CR-40 | Rm: 3G-024 | P: 202-586-4415 |
1000 Independence Ave, SW
Washington DC, 20585
E: kareemah.graham@hq.doe.gov | E: kgraham@bcs-hq.com | www.bcs-hq.com



Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

19 October 2022

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

The Honorable Debra Haaland
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Secretaries Granholm and Haaland,

This administration has done everything possible to discourage oil production and raise energy costs on the American people, and the egregious results speak for themselves: the average national price of a gallon of gas peaked at over five dollars in June before decreasing due to a drop off in demand and the onset of recession.

While some Americans have come to view a brief decline in gas prices as a welcome respite during record high inflation, increasing interest rates, and a sputtering economy, gas prices are still much too high and they are starting to increase again. On Wednesday, October 5, news outlets reported that OPEC and non-OPEC producers will pursue output cuts of two million barrels of oil a day; due to the OPEC cartel's reconstituted and outsized influence in the crude oil market, the price of oil could well increase to over \$100 per barrel in short order. This is a foreseeable issue that deserves your full attention and commitment - there is zero excuse for failing to prepare for every contingency.

Last year, in what can only charitably be described as a misplaced reaction to the imposition of high energy costs on the American people, Secretary Granholm laughed when asked what her plan was to increase oil production in America. In March, she also suggested that Americans should purchase electric vehicles to avoid rising gas prices. This extraordinary adoption of a "let them eat cake" mentality, coupled with this government's inability and unwillingness to approve onshore and offshore oil drilling, indicates that neither one of you, nor anyone else in this administration, has a plan to insulate Americans from the effects of a volatile oil market.

The only concept approaching an energy plan this administration has announced involves a rapid switch towards exclusive use of renewable energy. From the use of cobalt in the construction of electric vehicles, to the procuring of polysilicon in the production of solar panels, this administration seems to have no issue with utilizing slave labor. By plowing forward in his design to halve all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030, Joe Biden has all but ignored the stark human rights atrocities this policy is enabling. Make no mistake: the only way this GHG

target is met is if the Biden administration continues to implicitly endorse the use of forced and even child labor within Chinese Communist Party (CCP) supply chains.¹

Given the prospect of a worsening energy crisis, we demand answers to the following questions by **COB Wednesday October 26, 2022**:

- 1). Secretary Granholm, does the Biden administration anticipate higher gas prices considering the OPEC cartel's intention to reduce output by a reported two million barrels² a day? What is currently being done to mitigate OPEC's influence and ensure that Americans will not be subject to future financial strain at the pump? A year after laughing off the question, do you finally have a plan to increase oil production in the United States?³
- 2). Secretary Haaland, CNN reports that the White House is "having a spasm and panicking"⁴ due to OPEC's efforts to cut output. Is the outsized influence of far Left "environmentalist" groups, many of whom have served as de facto apologists for genocide, preventing this administration from increasing domestic energy production?
- 3). Secretary Haaland, due to OPEC's announcement on October 5, are you prepared to recommend regulatory relief to facilitate expedited onshore and offshore oil and gas drilling, including but not limited to exemptions from the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?
- 4). Secretary Granholm, OilX, a consultant company, estimated that by the end of this month, the SPR will hold only 179 million barrels of medium-sour crude oil, the type of crude oil preferred by US refineries. Last year, the SPR contained 621 million barrels, and one projection indicates that the reserve will shrink to 358 million barrels by the end of this month.⁵ As of September 14, this administration has withdrawn almost 24% of the SPR's supply since March.⁶

Does this administration plan to withdraw even more barrels from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR)? Is there any plan to limit this rapid depletion of the SPR?

¹ Crawford, A. (2017, February 28). *Meet Dorsen, 8, who mines cobalt to make your smartphone work*. Sky News. Retrieved October 3, 2022, from <https://news.sky.com/story/meet-dorsen-8-who-mines-cobalt-to-make-your-smartphone-work-10784120>

² Person. (2022, October 5). *OPEC+ JMMC agrees oil output cuts of 2 mln bpd - sources*. Reuters. Retrieved October 5, 2022, from <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/opec-jmmc-agrees-oil-output-cuts-2-mln-bpd-sources-2022-10-05/>

³ "Biden's Energy Secretary on Plans to Increase Oil Production." *Bloomberg Politics*. 5 November 2021. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=un5N690N3MY>

⁴ Marquardt, A., Bertrand, N., & Mattingly, P. (2022, October 4). *White House launches last ditch effort to dissuade OPEC from cutting oil production to avoid a 'total disaster'* | *CNN politics*. CNN. Retrieved October 5, 2022, from <https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/04/politics/white-house-lobby-opec-oil-production-cuts-gasoline-prices-midterms/index.html>

⁵ Blas, J. (2022, June 17). *The US Is Depleting Its Strategic Petroleum Reserve Faster Than It Looks*. Bloomberg. Retrieved October 3, 2022, from <https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2022-06-17/the-us-is-depleting-its-strategic-petroleum-reserve-faster-than-it-looks?leadSource=verify%20wall>

⁶ Denning, L. (2022, September 14). *Biden's Strategic Petroleum Reserve move adds to energy contradictions*. Bloomberg.com. Retrieved October 5, 2022, from <https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2022-09-14/biden-s-strategic-petroleum-reserve-move-adds-to-energy-contradictions?leadSource=verify+wall>

Did political considerations play any role in extending the SPR's withdrawal program – initially intended to end on October 31 – beyond Election Day 2022?

5). Secretary Granholm, given that the only way to realize a 50% cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 necessitates continued reliance on a CCP-dominated supply chain, does the Biden administration believe that child and slave labor is merely an unfortunate byproduct in the fight against global warming? Is it acceptable to tell Americans to purchase electric vehicles when the inputs for EVs are typically sourced with forced labor?

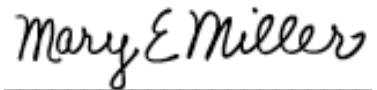
6). Secretaries Granholm and Haaland, natural gas prices are at a 14-year high, and as the winter approaches, natural gas prices will likely continue to skyrocket. Have your respective departments developed contingency plans to confront potential rolling blackouts and brownouts, and what will likely be a very expensive winter for millions of Americans? Please provide any accompanying details regarding any such plans.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of these critical questions and we look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,



Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress



Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress



Troy E. Nehls
Member of Congress



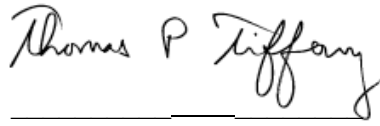
Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



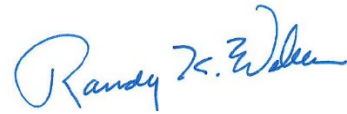
Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



Randy K. Weber
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress

From: [Johnsen, Steven \(CI\)](#)
To: [ES Central](#); [Stanton, Kimberly \(CONTR\)](#); [Standley, Erica](#); [Proctor, Stephanie](#)
Cc: [Cunningham, Derrick](#)
Subject: Fwd: Rep. Boebert Letter to Secretaries Granholm and Haaland
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 5:01:43 PM
Attachments: [Rep. Boebert - Letter to Secretaries Granholm and Haaland FINAL.pdf](#)

Please log thank you!

From: Harris, Michael <michael.harris2@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2022 9:39:12 AM
To: Pfaeffle, Frederick <frederick.pfaeffle@hq.doe.gov>; deForest, Alicia <alicia.deforest@hq.doe.gov>; Cunningham, Derrick <derrick.cunningham@hq.doe.gov>; Johnsen, Steven (CI) <steven.johnsen@hq.doe.gov>; Nouri, Ali <ali.nouri@hq.doe.gov>; Bumgarner, Jennifer <jennifer.bumgarner@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: FW: Rep. Boebert Letter to Secretaries Granholm and Haaland

Forwarding this letter. (b) (5) . It's from a collection of R Members (not a committee) on SPR, OPEC, and gas prices.

Kindly,

Michael R. Harris

Legislative Affairs Advisor (House)
Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Energy
michael.harris2@hq.doe.gov |(b) (6)
he/him/his

From: Fernandez, Chris <Chris.Fernandez@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 9:13 AM
To: Energy Congressional Inquiries <energycongressionalinquiries@hq.doe.gov>; andrew_wallace@ios.doi.gov; paniz_rezaeero@ios.doi.gov
Cc: jeff.small@mail.house.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Rep. Boebert Letter to Secretaries Granholm and Haaland

Good Morning,

Attached you'll find a letter from Rep. Boebert and ten of her colleagues to Secretaries Granholm and Haaland. Please confirm at your earliest convenience; thanks to each of you in advance!

Very Respectfully,

Chris Fernandez | Legislative Director
Congresswoman Lauren Boebert (CO-03)
1609 Longworth House Office Building

(b) (6)

This message does not originate from a known Department of Energy email system.
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Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

19 October 2022

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

The Honorable Debra Haaland
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

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⁵ Blas, J. (2022, June 17). *The US Is Depleting Its Strategic Petroleum Reserve Faster Than It Looks*. Bloomberg. Retrieved October 3, 2022, from <https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2022-06-17/the-us-is-depleting-its-strategic-petroleum-reserve-faster-than-it-looks?leadSource=verify%20wall>

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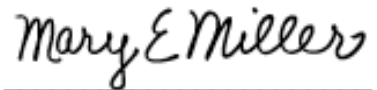
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Member of Congress



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Troy E. Nehls
Member of Congress



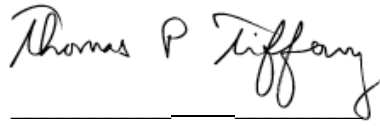
Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



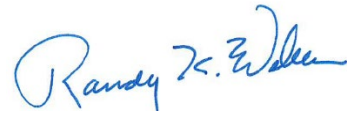
Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



Randy K. Weber
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress

From: [Wills, Andrew C](#)
To: [Macintyre, Douglas](#); [Perry, Robert](#); [Neukomm, Monica](#); [Kumar, Puesh](#); [Biscardi, Lindsay](#); [Hindmarch, Michelle](#); [Mcnamara, Adrian](#)
Subject: Re: OPR Release Oversight
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:21:57 PM

+ Adrian

Andrew C. Wills

Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor

Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER)

Sent from my iPhone

From: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 12:18:58 PM
To: Wills, Andrew C <andrew.wills@hq.doe.gov>; Perry, Robert <robert.perry2@hq.doe.gov>; Neukomm, Monica <monica.neukomm@hq.doe.gov>; Kumar, Puesh <puesh.kumar@hq.doe.gov>; Biscardi, Lindsay <lindsay.biscardi@hq.doe.gov>; Hindmarch, Michelle <michelle.hindmarch@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: OPR Release Oversight

By [Ari Natter](#)

October 27, 2022 at 6:00 AM EDT

Updated on October 27, 2022 at 9:14 AM EDT

House Republicans are launching an investigation into what they say could be the “potential misuse” by the Biden administration of the nation’s emergency oil reserves to lower gasoline prices, as well as White House deliberations over a fuel-export ban.

The move by the Republicans on the [House Committee on Oversight and Reform](#) previews a more robust probe if the GOP takes control of the chamber after the November midterm elections, a development that would grant them the power to subpoena key administration officials of President Joe Biden.

Committee Republicans, in a letter Wednesday, said they were examining the use of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve by the administration amid a historic 180 million barrel release that began in the Spring on the heel’s of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and culminated last week when the White House announced it was offloading the final tranche of 15 million barrels. The Republicans also said in the letter to Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm that it was seeking information about a possible export ban of refined petroleum products.

“We are concerned that the president may soon impose an oil and gas export ban that will result in even higher gas prices, supply chain issues, global market upheaval, and reduced energy security for the US and our allies,” said the letter which was led by Representative James Comer, the committee’s top Republican, and South Carolina Representative Nancy Mace.

The Energy Department said it was in receipt of the letter. “The SPR is a critical tool designed to address global supply disruptions, and as Putin’s war continues to create upheaval to energy markets, the Biden administration, like administrations of both parties have done in the past, is using the SPR as intended -- to address supply disruptions and provide relief to American families when they need it most,” the agency said.

The letter comes amid Republican ire over the administration’s use of the SPR to tame high gasoline prices ahead of the Nov. 8 midterm elections that will decide control of Congress. The latest release followed OPEC+’s decision earlier this month to slash production, which drew criticism from the White House and further soured US-Saudi Arabia relations. President Biden has said further releases from the oil reserve are possible in the months ahead.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia’s oil minister has warned major importers for trying to tame prices by selling down their inventories. “People are depleting their emergency stocks” and using it “as a mechanism to manipulate markets,” Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman said at the Future Investment Initiative conference in Riyadh earlier this week. “Losing emergency stocks may become painful in the months to come.”

At the same time, the administration has been weighing an export ban on petroleum products like gasoline and diesel, a move that would mark the most radical step yet by the White House to tackle gasoline prices. Although no time line has been set for a decision, which has sparked division within Biden’s team, it isn’t expected to happen before next month’s elections, according to a person familiar with the matter.

House Republicans, in their letter, requested documents and communications related to internal communications by Energy Department

officials, as well between agency officials and White House staff and third-party groups on releases from the SPR to lower prices as well as in conjunction with export bans, among other documents.

Similar to US oil producers and analysts, the committee members argue withholding exports of petroleum products will drive up global fuel prices and ultimately make it more expensive for the US Northeast and West Coast, regions that are both heavily reliant on imports. The timing wouldn't be ideal, as the East Coast is grappling with shortages of both diesel and gasoline.

Committee Republicans previously have raised flags about the administration's use of the SPR, alleging the Energy Department transferred 900,000 barrels of oil to Unipet America Inc., a subsidiary of Communist Party owned Sinopec Corp. and the recipient of billions of dollars of investment by BHR Partners, a private equity firm where Hunter Biden, the president's son, was a founding board member. Republicans also have previously asked the Energy Department for a briefing on the agency's plans to refill the reserves.

The White House said the Energy Department is required by law to sell the SPR oil in a competitive auction to the highest bidder, regardless of whether the bidder is a foreign company. "This independent process has been consistent across administrations," said Ian Sams, spokesman for the White House Counsel's Office.

(Updates with Energy Department response in fifth paragraph.)

From: Wills, Andrew C <andrew.wills@hq.doe.gov>

Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:40 AM

To: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>; Perry, Robert <robert.perry2@hq.doe.gov>; Neukomm, Monica <monica.neukomm@hq.doe.gov>; Kumar, Puesh <puesh.kumar@hq.doe.gov>; Biscardi, Lindsay <lindsay.biscardi@hq.doe.gov>; Hindmarch, Michelle <michelle.hindmarch@hq.doe.gov>

Subject: OPR Release Oversight

[https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-10-27/house-republicans-launch-probe-of-biden-s-oil-reserve-release?
mkt_tok=ODUwLVRBOS01MTEAAAGHuJJKVEfbuvllE5qdA2VzCXfLzSdzzPjS9H9wA6K7mOMg4WKuOZ
tQ0VQkTN7HP7FHmRVpHwwxprbYPcFE_YZkIGJtuIClR3sD3kNUsanBry0P](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-10-27/house-republicans-launch-probe-of-biden-s-oil-reserve-release?mkt_tok=ODUwLVRBOS01MTEAAAGHuJJKVEfbuvllE5qdA2VzCXfLzSdzzPjS9H9wA6K7mOMg4WKuOZtQ0VQkTN7HP7FHmRVpHwwxprbYPcFE_YZkIGJtuIClR3sD3kNUsanBry0P)

We should probably discuss a strategy for this and future oversight, in coordination with CI and the administration.

Thoughts?

Andrew C. Wills

Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor

Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER)

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Troiano, Charisma L](#)
To: [Harris, Michael](#); [Ward, Rebecca](#); [Nouri, Ali](#); [Davis, Christopher](#)
Cc: [Mayorga, David](#); [Finney, Amanda](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] request for comment/ GOP Oversight Probe of SPR releases/export ban deliberation
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 9:20:03 PM
Attachments: [Oil and Gas Embargo Letter to Sec. Granholm .pdf](#)

(b) (5)

+ [@Davis, Christopher](#) for vis.

From: Harris, Michael <michael.harris2@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 9:14:15 PM
To: Ward, Rebecca <rebecca.ward@hq.doe.gov>; Troiano, Charisma L <charisma.troiano@hq.doe.gov>; Nouri, Ali <ali.nouri@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Mayorga, David <david.mayorga@hq.doe.gov>; Finney, Amanda <amanda.finney@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] request for comment/ GOP Oversight Probe of SPR releases/export ban deliberation

They're referencing the attached letter, which we received only a couple hours ago.

From: Ward, Rebecca <rebecca.ward@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 9:12 PM
To: Troiano, Charisma L <charisma.troiano@hq.doe.gov>; Harris, Michael <michael.harris2@hq.doe.gov>; Nouri, Ali <ali.nouri@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Mayorga, David <david.mayorga@hq.doe.gov>; Finney, Amanda <amanda.finney@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] request for comment/ GOP Oversight Probe of SPR releases/export ban deliberation

Sorry for the double email I just got this to attach. This is what we received in July— I think this is what they are referencing. We are working on a response letter.

From: Troiano, Charisma L <charisma.troiano@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 8:55:03 PM
To: Harris, Michael <michael.harris2@hq.doe.gov>; Ward, Rebecca <rebecca.ward@hq.doe.gov>; Nouri, Ali <ali.nouri@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Mayorga, David <david.mayorga@hq.doe.gov>; Finney, Amanda <amanda.finney@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] request for comment/ GOP Oversight Probe of SPR releases/export ban deliberation

(please forgive as I believe I sent this up already but I can't seem to find it in my sent or drafts folder). The story is going up at 6am but will be updated if we have a comment –

(b) (5)

From: Ari Natter (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:) <anatter5@bloomberg.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 5:09 PM
To: DOE NEWS <doenews@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Troiano, Charisma L <charisma.troiano@hq.doe.gov>; Smith, Ramzey <ramzey.smith@hq.doe.gov>; Mayorga, David <david.mayorga@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] request for comment/ GOP Oversight Probe of SPR releases/export ban deliberation

Hey again --

It's my understanding House Republicans on the Oversight Committee have launched an investigation of the Biden's use of the SPR to lower prices and have said they are examining "potential misuse" of the reserve. They've also requested documents from the Energy Department related to deliberations on a petroleum export ban, which they allege will result in higher gas prices, supply chain issues and "global market upheaval."

Do you all have any response you can give on this?

Thanks for any help you can provide.

Ari

Ari Natter
Reporter
Bloomberg News
202-807-2243 office
(b) (6) cell
@AriNatter
Stories: bloom.bg/2mBBE2I

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5051
MINORITY (202) 225-5074
<https://oversight.house.gov>

October 26, 2022

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Granholm:

The Biden Administration continues to pursue policies that suppress domestic energy production and drive fuel prices higher for consumers. We are concerned that the president may soon impose an oil and gas export ban that will result in even higher gas prices, supply chain issues, global market upheaval, and reduced energy security for the U.S. and our allies. While you have not confirmed a ban will be imposed, recent reports by top officials suggest Administration interest in restricting exports of refined petroleum products.¹ As such, we request documents and information to learn more about the Administration's potential plans to ban oil and gas exports, as well as the Department of Energy's (DOE) role in the potential misuse of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) as a means to increase domestic fuel supply.

On October 5, 2022, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its affiliates (OPEC+) announced their intent to cut oil production by two million barrels a day—the equivalent of two percent of current global yields—beginning in November.² The promise of production cutbacks amid a preexisting supply shortage will increase fuel prices, adding to the recent surges in gasoline prices this month after briefly falling in September from an all-time-high of \$5 a gallon in June.³ In a move that sought to lower gas prices leading up to the midterm elections,⁴ the Biden Administration asked OPEC+ to delay production cuts until December—a proposal which OPEC+ rejected.⁵

As part of OPEC+ and a major supplier to the European Union (EU), Russia will continue to exert the pressure it has placed on Europe in the aftermath of the Ukrainian invasion. The EU is already experiencing severe energy shortages and the stress will only worsen as a

¹ E.g., Collin Eaton, *Exxon CEO Warns Biden Administration Against Limiting Exports*, WALL ST. J. (Updated Sept. 30, 2022).

² Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, Press Release, *33rd OPEC and non-OPEC Ministerial Meeting* (Oct. 5, 2022), available at www.opec.org/opec_web/en/press_room/7021 htm.; Stanley Reed, *In Rebuke to West, OPEC and Russia Aim to Raise Oil Prices With Big Supply Cut*, N.Y. TIMES (Oct. 5, 2022).

³ *Id.*

⁴ See Ahmad Elhamy and Moaz Abd-Alaziz, *Saudi Arabia, United States clash over reason for OPEC+ oil cut*, REUTERS (Oct. 13, 2022).

⁵ Jonah Shepp, *Did Saudi Arabia Just Hand the Midterms to the GOP?*, INTELLIGENCER (Oct. 16, 2022).

Russian oil embargo will commence in December amidst increased demand over the winter months.⁶ Restricting European access to yet another fuel source in the face of Russian aggression jeopardizes not only the wellbeing of our allies, but also endangers our own national security.

Contrary to alleviating gasoline prices at the pump, an export ban on refined petroleum products will prompt additional price hikes and supply chain bottlenecks, costing American consumers even more money.⁷ While Democrats blame American companies for inflated prices,⁸ years of underinvestment due to regulatory uncertainty and hostile Democrat policies are causing undersupply, leading to confined refinery capacity narrowly suited to processing imported heavy crude.⁹ A ban would temporarily oversaturate domestic refineries ill-prepared to process additional levels of light sweet crude since the U.S. is currently equipped to refine principally heavy crude.¹⁰ The resulting global supply contraction would spike fuel prices around the world, including in the U.S.¹¹ A letter sent to you by industry officials raised producers' growing concerns regarding limits on refined petroleum products.¹²

In addition to potentially imposing an export ban, President Biden is further depleting the Strategic Petroleum Reserve ahead of the midterm elections.¹³ Following the oil embargo OPEC levied against the U.S. in 1973, the Strategic Petroleum Reserve was created as an emergency buffer to mitigate domestic fallout from global market shocks.¹⁴ But after President Biden emptied more of our vital stockpiles than all previous presidents combined, the SPR now sits at its lowest levels since establishment.¹⁵ The SPR currently holds only enough reserves to offset U.S. consumption for 50 days should imports cease. Dipping further into the SPR to cover additional foreign fuel bans or price fluctuations is a short-sighted fix that would inadvertently exacerbate U.S. vulnerability.¹⁶

To assist Republicans on the Committee on Oversight and Reform in conducting oversight of the circumstances surrounding domestic supply concerns and a potential refined

⁶ Medora Lee, *Winter bills will send shivers up your spine with energy prices set to rise, analysts say*, U.S.A TODAY (Sept. 16, 2022).

⁷ Timothy Puko and Benoît Morenne, *U.S. Takes Aim at OPEC for Oil Production Cuts*, WALL S. J. (Updated Oct. 6, 2022).

⁸ H. Comm. on Oversight and Reform, *Hearing on Power and Profiteering: How Certain Industries Hiked Prices, Fleeced Consumers, and Drove Inflation* (Sept. 22, 2022).

⁹ Garrett Golding and Lutz Kilian, *A Ban on U.S. Crude Exports Would Not Lower Gasoline Prices at the Pump*, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS (Jan. 4, 2022), available at <https://www.dallasfed.org/research/economics/2022/0104>.

¹⁰ *Supra*, n.1.

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² Letter from Mike Sommers, President and CEO, American Petroleum Institute and Chet Thompson, President and CEO, American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers, to Jennifer Granholm, Sec'y, U.S. Dep't of Energy. (Oct. 4, 2022), available at www.api.org/~media/Files/misc/AFPMP-Granholm-Letter-on-Refined-Product-Exports.

¹³ Ben Lefebvre, *Biden administration to tap oil reserve again ahead of midterms*, POLITICO (Oct. 18, 2022).

¹⁴ Department of Energy, Office of Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response, *SPR Origins*, available at www.energy.gov/ceser/spr-origins (last visited Oct. 12, 2022).

¹⁵ Alexander Zemek, *Biden's America is Running on Empty*, WALL S. J. (Sept. 22, 2022).

¹⁶ *Id.*


The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
October 26, 2022
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petroleum product ban, please provide the following information no later than November 9, 2022:

1. All documents and communications, from November 1, 2021 to present, between and among DOE officials, referring or relating to releases from the SPR in conjunction with export bans, including domestic refinery capabilities should an export ban be enforced;
2. All documents and communications, from September 1, 2022 to present, between and among DOE officials, referring to using the SPR to lower prices until November of 2022.
3. All documents and communications from January 20, 2021 to present, between third party groups outside the government and DOE employees related to releases from the SPR and/or an export ban.
4. All documents and communications, from January 20, 2021, to present, between DOE and the White House, regarding SPR releases and/or an export ban.

To ask any follow-up or related questions, please contact Committee on Oversight and Reform Republican Staff at (202) 225-5074. The Committee on Oversight and Reform is the principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate “any matter” at “any time” under House Rule X. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this inquiry.

Sincerely,



Nancy Mace
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Civil Rights
and Civil Liberties



James Comer
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Reform



Glenn S. Grothman
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on National Security



Michael Cloud
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Economic and
Consumer Policy

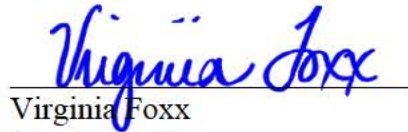
The Honorable Jennifer Granholm

October 26, 2022

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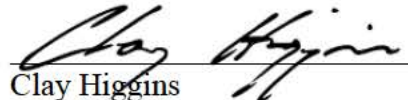
Yvette Herrell
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Environment



Virginia Foxx
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress



Clay Higgins
Member of Congress




Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Fred Keller
Member of Congress



Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



Pat Fallon
Member of Congress



Mike Flood
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Carolyn Maloney, Chairwoman
Committee on Oversight and Reform

The Honorable Stephen F. Lynch, Chairman
Subcommittee on National Security

The Honorable Raja Krishnamoorthi, Chairman
Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy

The Honorable Ro Khanna, Chairman
Subcommittee on Environment

The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Chairman
Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

From: [Aad VAN BOHEMEN, IEA](#)
To: [Macintyre, Douglas](#); [Jason ELLIOTT, IEA](#)
Cc: [Perry, Robert](#); [McGarry, Thomas](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: US SPR release
Date: Friday, September 9, 2022 7:47:01 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

Thanks Doug,
This is very useful.

Perhaps you saw that Reuters quoted Secretary Granholm today, when she indicated that not all pledged emergency stocks will be released (see below). But she gave no clear number though.

Aad

UPDATE 4-U.S. evaluating need for further SPR oil releases after October -Granholm - Reuters News

 09-Sep-2022 05:44:24 AM

To view this story on Refinitiv Workspace, click [here](#)
Adds DOE official comment in paragraph 2

By Arathy Somasekhar

HOUSTON, Sept 8 (Reuters) - U.S. President Joe Biden's administration is weighing the need for further releases of crude oil from the nation's emergency stockpiles **after the current program ends in October**, Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm told Reuters on Thursday.

A Department Of Energy official later said the White House was not considering new releases from the U.S. Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at this time **beyond the 180 million barrels that the president announced months ago**.

The Biden administration this year has delivered about 1 million barrels of oil per day from SPR stockpiles to lower fuel prices and pare energy inflation ahead of midterm elections in November.

The releases so far this year have helped knock average U.S. retail gasoline prices down to \$3.75 a gallon this week from \$5 a gallon in June. But they also have cut U.S. emergency stocks to below 450 million barrels, lowest since 1984.

OPEC and its allies led by Russia on Monday agreed to a small oil production cut beginning next month to bolster prices that have slid on fears of an economic slowdown. ([Full Story](#))

It is "a little early to say to say that there is going to be more SPR releases," said Abhiram Rajendran, head of global oil at Energy Intelligence. "But if OPEC starts getting aggressive on cutting supply, that's a possibility."

The nation's overall crude stocks have been declining since mid-2020 due to sales

from congressional mandates and Biden's price initiative. ([Full Story](#))

Without the SPR releases, U.S. commercial crude oil inventories "would be much lower than they are and they are already below average," said Phil Flynn, an analyst at Price Futures Group.

Granholm also said during a visit to Houston on Thursday that the administration and allies are still discussing a cap on prices for Russian oil purchases. A price cap would restrict revenues available to Russia amid its invasion of Ukraine.

The administration has not ruled out a U.S. fuel export ban, but said it is "certainly not something on top of the list," she said.

Granholm recently wrote to U.S. refiners urging them to replenish low fuel inventories ahead of winter and to curb rising exports of gasoline and diesel. The letter warned the administration may take unspecified emergency measures if fuel stocks fell further. ([Full Story](#))

From: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>

Sent: Friday, September 09, 2022 13:29

To: ELLIOTT Jason, IEA/EMS/PSD <Jason.ELLIOTT@iea.org>; VAN BOHEMEN Aad, IEA/EMS/PSD <Aad.VANBOHEMEN@iea.org>

Cc: Perry, Robert <robert.perry2@hq.doe.gov>; McGarry, Thomas <thomas.mcgarry@hq.doe.gov>

Subject: RE: US SPR release

Jason and Aad,

Attached is a file showing the volume offered and the volume awarded for each of the SPR emergency sales this calendar year. Please let me know if you need anything else. It was great talking to both of you yesterday!

Doug

From: Jason ELLIOTT, IEA <Jason.ELLIOTT@iea.org>

Sent: Wednesday, September 7, 2022 10:40 AM

To: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>

Cc: Aad VAN BOHEMEN, IEA <Aad.VANBOHEMEN@iea.org>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] US SPR release

Hi Doug,

I was hoping to have a chance to catch up with you this week, to discuss briefly the latest update on SPR release plans.

We follow closely your announcements on notice of sales and contract awards, and the weekly updates to your monthly SPR movements on your web page. Based on these, we reckon (see table and graph below) that you will still need to be putting out a notice of sale for 65 mb, is this correct

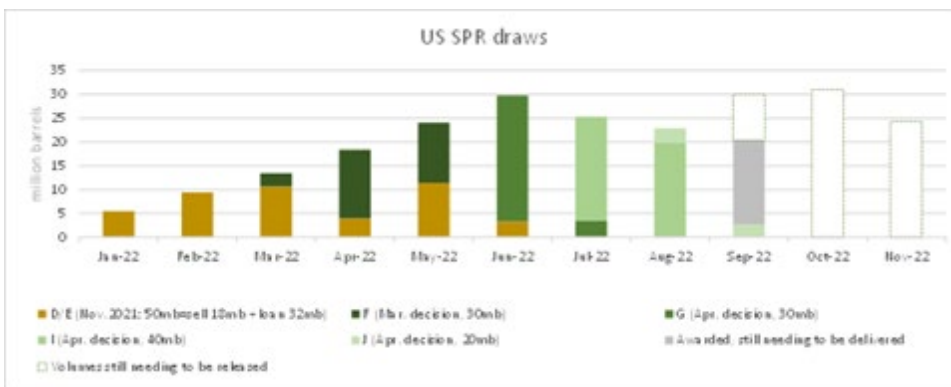
and do you plan to do so soon? Based on a monthly 1mb/d rate of possible delivery for September and October, it would appear that a substantial volume of oil will not be able to be released before the end of October, so deliveries stretching into November (maybe beyond?), is this what you are thinking as well?

Much appreciate any comments and updates you might be able to provide us. We will be updating on the stock release of all IEA countries in our OMR coming out early next week. Happy to chat by phone or email.

Kind regards,
Jason

Mr Jason Elliott • cell phone: (b) (6)
Acting Head, Energy Policy and Security Division

Release decision	release name (delivery period)	Notice of Sale		Awarded	
		volumes	date of NOS	volumes	date
1 Mar 22	F FY 22 Emergency Drawdown 1	30	02-03-2022	30	13-03-2022
1 Apr 22	G FY 22 Emergency Drawdown 2A (May-June)	30	1 Apr 2022	30	21 April 2022
	I FY 22 Emergency Drawdown 2B (Aug-Sep)	40.1	24 May 2022	45	14 June 2022
	J FY 22 Emergency Drawdown 3A (Sep-Oct)	20	26 July 2022	20	11 Aug 2022
	still to be released:	70	tbd	65	tbd
		190.1	100%	190	100%



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From: [Habbaz, Roy](mailto:Roy.Habbaz@SPR.DOE.GOV) on behalf of [Habbaz, Roy <Roy.Habbaz@SPR.DOE.GOV>](mailto:Roy.Habbaz@SPR.DOE.GOV)
To: [Oosterling, Paul S](mailto:Paul.Oosterling@SPR.DOE.GOV); [Gele, Lionel](mailto:Lionel.Gele@SPR.DOE.GOV); [Roark, Christopher](mailto:Christopher.Roark@SPR.DOE.GOV); [Rickner, Darryl](mailto:Darryl.Rickner@SPR.DOE.GOV)
Subject: RE: Saudi Arabia pushes back against criticism of Opec+ cut
Date: Thursday, October 13, 2022 7:28:34 AM

Glad to provide. Chris or I will continue to forward any items of interest. Thanks.

From: Oosterling, Paul S <Paul.Oosterling@SPR.DOE.GOV>
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2022 7:24 AM
To: Habbaz, Roy <Roy.Habbaz@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Gele, Lionel <Lionel.Gele@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Roark, Christopher <Christopher.Roark@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Rickner, Darryl <Darryl.Rickner@SPR.DOE.GOV>
Subject: RE: Saudi Arabia pushes back against criticism of Opec+ cut

Thanks Roy – appreciate your sending these to me!

Paul

From: Habbaz, Roy <Roy.Habbaz@SPR.DOE.GOV>
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2022 6:15 AM
To: Gele, Lionel <Lionel.Gele@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Oosterling, Paul S <Paul.Oosterling@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Roark, Christopher <Christopher.Roark@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Rickner, Darryl <Darryl.Rickner@SPR.DOE.GOV>
Subject: Saudi Arabia pushes back against criticism of Opec+ cut

[Saudi Arabia pushes back against criticism of Opec+ cut](#)

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

From: [Habbaz, Roy](#) on behalf of [Habbaz, Roy <Roy.Habbaz@SPR.DOE.GOV>](#)
To: [Oosterling, Paul S](#); [Gele, Lionel](#); [Roark, Christopher](#); [Rickner, Darryl](#)
Subject: RE: Biden looks to use SPR to put collar on oil prices
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 4:20:03 PM

Totally agree.

From: Oosterling, Paul S <Paul.Oosterling@SPR.DOE.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 4:18 PM
To: Habbaz, Roy <Roy.Habbaz@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Gele, Lionel <Lionel.Gele@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Roark, Christopher <Christopher.Roark@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Rickner, Darryl <Darryl.Rickner@SPR.DOE.GOV>
Subject: RE: Biden looks to use SPR to put collar on oil prices

Thanks Roy – it's hard not to shake my head when reading this...

But it is what it is!

Paul

From: Habbaz, Roy <[Roy.Habbaz@SPR.DOE.GOV](#)>
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 4:10 PM
To: Gele, Lionel <[Lionel.Gele@SPR.DOE.GOV](#)>; Oosterling, Paul S <[Paul.Oosterling@SPR.DOE.GOV](#)>; Roark, Christopher <[Christopher.Roark@SPR.DOE.GOV](#)>; Rickner, Darryl <[Darryl.Rickner@SPR.DOE.GOV](#)>
Subject: Biden looks to use SPR to put collar on oil prices

[Biden looks to use SPR to put collar on oil prices](#)

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

From: [Habbaz, Roy](#) on behalf of [Habbaz, Roy <Roy.Habbaz@SPR.DOE.GOV>](#)
To: [Gele, Lionel](#); [Oosterling, Paul S](#); [Roark, Christopher](#); [Rickner, Darryl](#)
Subject: Biden to again release crude from SPR: Update
Date: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 8:38:23 PM

[Biden to again release crude from SPR: Update](#)

(b) (4)

From: [Wills, Andrew C](#) on behalf of [Wills, Andrew C <andrew.wills@hq.doe.gov>](#)
To: [Macintyre, Douglas](#); [Harris, Michael](#); [Nouri, Ali](#)
Cc: [Tuttle, Robert](#); [Perry, Robert](#); [Biscardi, Lindsay](#); [Hindmarch, Michelle](#); [Neukomm, Monica](#); [Oosterling, Paul S](#); [Treadway, Demetrius L](#)
Subject: RE: Weber SPR Visit Request
Date: Friday, September 30, 2022 3:24:03 PM

Thanks, Doug.

Ali: Let us know what you think and how you'd like to proceed.

ACW

From: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2022 9:04 PM
To: Wills, Andrew C <andrew.wills@hq.doe.gov>; Harris, Michael <michael.harris2@hq.doe.gov>; Nouri, Ali <ali.nouri@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Tuttle, Robert <robert.tuttle@hq.doe.gov>; Perry, Robert <robert.perry2@hq.doe.gov>; Biscardi, Lindsay <lindsay.biscardi@hq.doe.gov>; Hindmarch, Michelle <michelle.hindmarch@hq.doe.gov>; Neukomm, Monica <monica.neukomm@hq.doe.gov>; Oosterling, Paul S <paul.oosterling@spr.doe.gov>; Treadway, Demetrius L <demetrius.treadway@spr.doe.gov>
Subject: Re: Weber SPR Visit Request

Whatever you guys decide, we can do! My only comment is that I cannot make it on Oct. 18. We would just want to keep the count to 20-30 people, including about 5 combined from OPR. Also consider how many from DOE outside OPR that will want to come.

Doug

From: Wills, Andrew C <andrew.wills@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2022 2:07 PM
To: Harris, Michael <michael.harris2@hq.doe.gov>; Nouri, Ali <ali.nouri@hq.doe.gov>; Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Tuttle, Robert <robert.tuttle@hq.doe.gov>; Perry, Robert <robert.perry2@hq.doe.gov>; Biscardi, Lindsay <lindsay.biscardi@hq.doe.gov>; Hindmarch, Michelle <michelle.hindmarch@hq.doe.gov>; Neukomm, Monica <monica.neukomm@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: Weber SPR Visit Request

Thanks, Ali.

I've added Doug's Chief of Staff, Robert, here to consider this request. I know they're on travel this week with the Indian delegation and other USG officials, so their replies may be delayed.

Subject to Hatch concerns flagged by Michael (b) (5), I don't think this should be a problem, but I'd like to defer to Robert and Doug on how they typically handle these types of requests.

Thanks,

Andrew C. Wills

Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor

Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER)

U.S. Department of Energy

Office: 202.586.4081 | Cell: (b) (6) | andrew.wills@hq.doe.gov

He/Him/His Pronouns

From: Harris, Michael <michael.harris2@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2022 2:59 PM
To: Nouri, Ali <ali.nouri@hq.doe.gov>; Wills, Andrew C <andrew.wills@hq.doe.gov>; Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Tuttle, Robert <robert.tuttle@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: Weber SPR Visit Request

(b) (5)

I'll also note for awareness that (b) (5)

From: Nouri, Ali <ali.nouri@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2022 2:21 PM
To: Wills, Andrew C <andrew.wills@hq.doe.gov>; Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Harris, Michael <michael.harris2@hq.doe.gov>; Tuttle, Robert <robert.tuttle@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: FW: Weber SPR Visit Request

Andrew, Doug – thoughts on this one?

From: Whitener, Jeanette <Jeanette.Whitener@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2022 2:18 PM
To: Nouri, Ali <ali.nouri@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Weber SPR Visit Request

Hi Ali –

Alicia Molt West gave me your contact information to reach out.

Congressman Weber has a large portion of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve in his district, specifically Bryan Mound in Jefferson County, Texas.

If possible, he would like to visit the facility, possibly with some other members. It would potentially be a bipartisan group touring facilities on the Gulf Coast.

Could you let us know if this is something we might be able to coordinate through you? Ideally, the date we would like to look at is Tuesday, October 18th.

Appreciate any help you could offer.

Thanks!
Jeanette

Jeanette Whitener
Chief of Staff
Congressman Randy Weber (TX-14)

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From: [O'Shaughnessy, Kelly](#) on behalf of [O'Shaughnessy, Kelly <Kelly.O'Shaughnessy@SPR.DOE.GOV>](#)
To: [Treadway, Demetrius](#); [Oosterling, Paul S](#)
Subject: FW: Guidance for Requests to Tour DOE Facilities
Date: Friday, August 26, 2022 12:10:21 PM
Attachments: [Site tours guidance.docx](#)

FYI

Kelly O'Shaughnessy
Chief Counsel
US Department of Energy
Strategic Petroleum Reserve
504-734-4015

From: Kestenbaum, Rachel <rachel.kestenbaum@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2022 9:57 AM
To: Durant, James <james.durant@science.doe.gov>; Browning-Craig, Hilary <hxbrowning-craig@bpa.gov>; Middleton, Brandon (EMCBC) <brandon.middleton@emcbc.doe.gov>; Trznadel, Reesha <reesha.trznadel@hq.doe.gov>; White, Tyler E <whitete@id.doe.gov>; Moody, Julia <julia.moody@ee.doe.gov>; Fischer, Timothy <timothy.fischer@nnsa.doe.gov>; Gehringer, Kate <kate.gehringer@nnsa.doe.gov>; Figueroa, Jose <jose.figueroa@nnsa.doe.gov>; Malie, Susan (NETL) <susan.malie@netl.doe.gov>; Thress, Don Frederick <don.thress@science.doe.gov>; Silberstein, Mark <mark.silberstein@hq.doe.gov>; KNOWLES, LUCY M (SRS) <lucy.kowles@srs.gov>; Jourolmon, Leon <leon.jourolmon@sepa.doe.gov>; O'Shaughnessy, Kelly <Kelly.O'Shaughnessy@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Kral, John D <kral@wapa.gov>; Williams, Joshua <joshua.williams@swpa.gov>
Cc: Richards, Jocelyn <jocelyn.richards@hq.doe.gov>; Brazeau, Brian <brian.brazeau@hq.doe.gov>; Comfort, Melinda <melinda.comfort@hq.doe.gov>; Gordon, Wayne <wayne.gordon@hq.doe.gov>; Locke, Stephanie <stephanie.locke@hq.doe.gov>; Pan, Chao <chao.pan@hq.doe.gov>; Seibert, Apple <apple.seibert@hq.doe.gov>; Sharp, Laura <laura.sharp@hq.doe.gov>; Stewart, Yvonne <yvonne.stewart@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: [External] Guidance for Requests to Tour DOE Facilities

Hello,

I hope everyone has had a great summer. As we get closer to election day in November, we are re-circulating this guidance for requests to tour DOE facilities. Please share with your ethics staff and your site management. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Rachel Kestenbaum (she/her)
Deputy Assistant General Counsel
for Standards of Conduct
General Counsel/Ethics and Personnel Law
(202) 586-5366

REQUESTS BY POLITICAL CANDIDATES TO TOUR DOE FACILITIES

- Requests by political candidates to tour DOE facilities are subject to the provisions of the Hatch Act; the statute regulating the political activity of Federal employees. Any proposed site visit by a candidate **MUST** go through legal review before it can go forward. DOE employees authorizing prohibited political activities by candidates in DOE facilities or on DOE property are subject to penalties under the Hatch act.
- DOE employees may not engage in political activity: (1) while on duty; (2) while on Federal property or in a room or building engaged for the purpose of conducting official duties; (3) while wearing a uniform or other item identifying the employee as a Federal employee; or (4) while using a government vehicle. Federal employees may not engage in political activity using government resources such as e-mail, photocopiers, telecommunications equipment or internet access.
- DOE buildings and property may not be authorized for campaign activities such as town hall meetings, rallies, speeches, fundraisers, press conferences, photo opportunities, etc. (This is true even if a facility has a policy to permit use of some portion of the facilities by the public).
- DOE employees authorizing prohibited political activities by candidates in DOE facilities or on DOE property will be subject to penalties under the Hatch Act, which can include disciplinary action in the form of a formal reprimand, a suspension without pay, or removal from service.
- If a DOE facility has a policy of allowing public tours, DOE employees may authorize a candidate's request in the same manner as a request from a member of the general public (for officeholders, see guidance below); however, the following conditions must be followed: (1) all tours must be arranged by the candidate and not campaign staff; (2) DOE must ensure that tours do not turn into campaign events; (3) candidates cannot be permitted to wear campaign pins or distribute any type of literature; (4) candidates must be escorted to ensure they do not promote their campaign with employees; (5) candidates cannot be permitted to tour the facility with more than a personal assistant (no large number of campaign staff); and (6) the candidate cannot be accompanied by any entourage including media, photographers, or campaign consultants or volunteers.
- If the candidate seeking a tour is a current officeholder, the above restrictions still apply; however, the officeholder staff may be actively involved in setting up the tour provided the officeholder is undertaking the tour in his or her official capacity. In addition, current officeholders may be able to tour facilities that are not open to the public, with restrictions similar to those above, when there is a nexus between their office and the mission of the facility. Prior to authorizing these non-public tours or for any other questions, please contact Susan Beard, Jocelyn Richards or Rachel Kestenbaum for assistance at 202-586-1522.

Date: August 2022

From: [Oosterling, Paul S](#) on behalf of [Oosterling, Paul S <Paul.Oosterling@SPR.DOE.GOV>](#)
To: [**DOE Users](#)
Subject: FW: Admin Leave for Voting and CESER Chronicle
Date: Monday, November 7, 2022 2:22:23 PM
Attachments: [ATAAPS - Requesting Administrative Leave for Voting.pdf](#)
[CESER Chronicle Newsletter - November 4 2022.msg](#)
[image001.png](#)
Importance: High

Good afternoon everyone – hope all had a nice weekend and are ready and engaged for the Program review tomorrow morning.

As it happens our facilities program review is falling on a voting day – ***voting is a sacred right we have and it is a time to make your voices heard*** -- so please carve out time in the afternoon, afterhours, or whenever you can during the day to get to a voting location!

Can't say it much better than Andrew Willis from the office of CESER so I am forwarding his email and the ATTAPs process to follow for voting admin leave.

Have a great day and a better tomorrow!

Paul



Paul S. Oosterling | Project Manager | US Department of Energy |
 Strategic Petroleum Reserve, Project Management Office
 ☎ (504) 734-4201 (b) (6) | ✉ Paul.Oosterling@spr.doe.gov

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From: Wills, Andrew C <andrew.wills@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 7, 2022 1:54 PM
To: Biscardi, Lindsay <lindsay.biscardi@hq.doe.gov>; Blankenburg, Joseph Lee <joseph.blankenburg@hq.doe.gov>; Broussard, Nicholas <nicholas.broussard@hq.doe.gov>; Buell, Kenneth <kenneth.buell@hq.doe.gov>; Cando, Christian <christian.cando@hq.doe.gov>; Chapman-Turner, Donna <donna.chapman-turner@hq.doe.gov>; Coe, Michael <michael.coe@hq.doe.gov>; Coolidge, Amanda J <amanda.coolidge@hq.doe.gov>; Cortes, Farzaneh <farzaneh.cortes@hq.doe.gov>; DL-CR-40 Management - FORS <DL-CR-40Management-FORS@Hq.Doe.Gov>; DL-CR-41 Management - FORS <DL-CR-41Management-FORS@Hq.Doe.Gov>; DL-CR-41 Planning and Engineering Office - FORS <DL-CR-42PlanningandEngineeringOfficeFORS@Hq.Doe.Gov>; DL-CR-42 Management - FORS <DL-CR-43ManagementFORS@Hq.Doe.Gov>; DL-CR-42 Operations and Readiness Office – FORS <

42OperationsandReadinessOfficeFORS@Hq.Doe.Gov>; DL-CR-43 Management - FORS <DL-CR-43Management-FORS@Hq.Doe.Gov>; DL-CR-43 Office of Economic Planning, Policy and Finance - FORS <DL-CR-45OfficeofEconomicPlanning_PolicyandFinanceFORS@Hq.Doe.Gov>; DL-CR-44 Management and Administration Office – FORS <DL-CR-44ManagementandAdministrationOfficeFORS@Hq.Doe.Gov>; DL-CR-44 Management-Fors <DL-CR-46Management-Fors@Hq.Doe.Gov>; DL-CR-45 Management - FORS <DL-CR-47Management-FORS@Hq.Doe.Gov>; DL-CR-45 Reserve Lands Management Office - FORS <DL-CR-47ReserveLandsManagementOfficeFORS@Hq.Doe.Gov>; DL-FE-40 Petroleum Reserves - FORS <DL-FE-40PetroleumReserves-FORS@hq.doe.gov>; Garland, Robert (HQ) <Robert.Garland@HQ.DOE.GOV>; Li, Jennifer <jennifer.li@hq.doe.gov>; Durden, Ma-Shyrra <ma-shyrra.durden@hq.doe.gov>; Gay, Carolyn <carolyn.gay@hq.doe.gov>; Hindmarch, Michelle <michelle.hindmarch@hq.doe.gov>; Howard, David <david.howard@hq.doe.gov>; Hsu, Cynthia <cynthia.hsu@hq.doe.gov>; Kargbo, Abraham <abraham.kargbo@hq.doe.gov>; Kaushiva, Akhlesh <akhlesh.kaushiva@hq.doe.gov>; Kirk, Tameka <tameka.kirk@hq.doe.gov>; Kumar, Puesh <puesh.kumar@hq.doe.gov>; Lemmond, Marc <marc.lemmond@hq.doe.gov>; Levy, Megan M <megan.levy@hq.doe.gov>; Manning, Marsha <marsha.manning@hq.doe.gov>; Marko, Brian <brian.marko@hq.doe.gov>; Martin, Brandi <brandi.martin@hq.doe.gov>; Mcnamara, Adrian <adrian.mcnamara@hq.doe.gov>; Moore, Brittany <brittany.moore@hq.doe.gov>; Muneer, Fowad <fowad.muneer@hq.doe.gov>; Neukomm, Monica <monica.neukomm@hq.doe.gov>; Oosterling, Paul S <Paul.Oosterling@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Passaro, Jennifer <jennifer.passaro@hq.doe.gov>; Perry, Jessica <jessica.perry@hq.doe.gov>; Quinn, Joseph <joseph.quinn1@hq.doe.gov>; Rush, Sonya <sonya.rush@ee.doe.gov>; Speiser, Tertia <tertia.speiser@hq.doe.gov>; Sweeney, Christopher <christopher.sweeney@hq.doe.gov>; Tarduogno, Matthew <matthew.tarduogno@hq.doe.gov>; Toecker, Michael <michael.toecker@hq.doe.gov>; Ulrich, Elaine <elaine.ulrich@hq.doe.gov>; Wills, Andrew C <andrew.wills@hq.doe.gov>; Winn, Mara E <mara.winn@hq.doe.gov>; Yamben, Walter <walter.yamben@hq.doe.gov>

Subject: [External] FYI: Admin Leave for Voting and CESER Chronicle

Importance: High

Team CESER,

I hope everyone had a great weekend, and I hope you've had a productive (and not too crazy) Monday (even if it is the day before a full moon).

Two things for your consideration, just to make sure that you're aware of going into the week:

1. **VOTING DAY TIME OFF!** As noted in the DOECAST below, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and DOE are granting employees administrative leave (i.e., excused absence) to vote in tomorrow's election (or before, if you're early voting). Specifically, DOE now offers up to four hours of administrative leave to support Federal employees participation in Federal, State, local, Tribal and territorial elections as long as the time off does not interfere with the Department's mission. Please refer to the attached document and note below for more information, and please contact [Donna](#) if you have any questions.
2. **CESER CHRONICLE FRIDAY** – As you all may know, Michelle and her team have been hard at work to develop a new extremely useful MONTHLY internal communications tool called the CESER Chronicle, which includes important office updates, employee action items, critical deadlines, dates, and events, and other fun items that will be useful to use as a CESER teammate. Please be sure to watch monthly for this exciting new tool, and feel to ask [Michelle](#) if you have any questions.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions, or if I can help in any way.

Have a great week!

Andrew C. Wills

Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor

Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER)

U.S. Department of Energy

Office: 202.586.4081 | Cell: (b) (6) | andrew.wills@hq.doe.gov

He/Him/His Pronouns

From: DOECAST <doecast@hq.doe.gov>

Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2022 1:35 PM

Subject: Multiple DOECAST Message

Topics covered below:

- Excused Absence for Voting
- Scheduling “Use or Lose” Annual Leave and Leave Restoration

You can view these and other DOECASTs on DOE’s Powerpedia wiki <http://powerpedia.energy.gov/wiki/DOECAST> or on the Inside DOE webpage <https://inside.energy.gov/doecast>

Excused Absence for Voting

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management and DOE have a longstanding practice of granting employees administrative leave (i.e., excused absence) to vote when the time off does not interfere with the Department’s mission. To continue this practice, and in support of President Biden’s [Executive Order 14019](#), *Promoting Access to Voting*, DOE now offers **up to four hours of administrative leave** to support Federal employees participation in Federal, State, local, Tribal and territorial elections.

The four hours of excused absence for voting includes travel to and from the voting site and workplace, which may be an employee’s home if teleworking or on a remote work agreement. If less than four hours are needed to vote, only the required amount of administrative leave will be granted. Leave Approving Officials should authorize excused leave for voting, upon request, unless doing so disrupts DOE missions or operations.

For additional information, please refer to [Policy Memorandum #122](#), *Administrative Leave for Voting-Related Activities*. Policy questions regarding excused absence for voting should be directed to your respective [Servicing Human Resources Office or Shared Service Center](#). Questions regarding your timecard should be directed to your organization’s timekeeper or the

Payroll Help Desk at (301) 903-2500, option 4.

Scheduling “Use or Lose” Annual Leave and Leave Restoration

This is a reminder to all supervisors and employees that they should review employees’ annual leave balances and revise schedules for the remainder of the year to ensure employees do not enter the new leave year with balances exceeding the maximum leave that may be carried over from the prior year.

In accordance with [Policy Memorandum #95, Restoring Excess Annual Leave](#), annual leave in excess of the maximum allowable carryover (“use or lose”), which is scheduled and approved by the supervisor in writing on or before **November 19, 2022**, but not used by the end of the leave year (December 31, 2022), may be restored for future use only under the following limited conditions:

- The scheduled leave is cancelled due to an exigency of the public business declared by the [Head of a Departmental Element \(HDE\)](#) or designee;
- An employee becomes sick or injured and uses sick leave late in the leave year or for a length of time that precludes rescheduling excess annual leave before the end of the leave year; or
- An administrative oversight, error, or unusual circumstance. Please note, an employee’s failure to schedule leave on or before **November 19, 2022**, does not constitute an administrative error.

All requests for leave restoration must be made in writing and approved by the HDE or designee. The HDE or designee should use [Attachment 1 - Leave Restoration Certification Memorandum Template](#) available on HCnet to approve requests in accordance with Policy Memorandum #95. The HDE should provide written notification of leave restoration approval and the expiration date of any restored annual leave to affected employees. Certification memorandums for leave restoration approvals must be submitted no later than **January 27, 2023**, to Keith Williams at Pay-Leave-Policy@hq.doe.gov.

For additional guidance on restoration of “use or lose” annual leave, please visit the [End of Leave Year Guidance](#) HCnet page. Questions concerning annual leave and leave restoration should be directed to your respective [Servicing Human Resources Office or Shared Service Center](#).

From: [Habbaz, Roy](#) on behalf of [Habbaz, Roy <Roy.Habbaz@SPR.DOE.GOV>](#)
To: [Gele, Lionel](#); [Oosterling, Paul S](#); [Roark, Christopher](#); [Rickner, Darryl](#)
Subject: US nears elections where Republicans hold edge
Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2022 10:33:22 AM

Further to Doug's comments.

[US nears elections where Republicans hold edge](#)

(b) (4)

From: [Macintyre, Douglas](#) on behalf of [Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>](#)
To: [Gele, Kelly M](#); [McGarry, Thomas](#)
Cc: [Oosterling, Paul S](#); [McKean, Michael](#); [Selico, Leo](#); [Turner, Shenee](#); [Garland, Robert L \(FE\)](#); [Roark, Mary C](#)
Subject: RE: Sales of Reserves
Date: Monday, July 11, 2022 2:56:43 PM
Attachments: [Strategic Petroleum Reserve Fact Sheet_7.11.22.pdf](#)

Here is what the revised Fact Sheet will say and a link (that might have a slightly different URL that I will send once finished) to its eventual location. One the Press Release goes out with this link, you can reply to all emails from the Sales mailbox with a note that points them to the Fact Sheet (the end of the Fact Sheet).

Doug

[Strategic Petroleum Reserve Fact Sheet_3.31.22.pdf \(energy.gov\)](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: Macintyre, Douglas
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 9:37 AM
To: Gele, Kelly <Kelly.Gele@SPR.DOE.GOV>; McGarry, Thomas <Thomas.McGarry@Hq.Doe.Gov>
Cc: Oosterling, Paul S <paul.oosterling@spr.doe.gov>; McKean, Michael <michael.mckean@spr.doe.gov>; Selico, Leo <Leo.Selico@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Turner, Shenee <Shenee.Turner@hq.doe.gov>; Garland, Robert L (FE) <Robert.Garland@HQ.DOE.GOV>; Roark, Mary C <mary.roark@spr.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: Sales of Reserves

Right now the plan is to revise the Fact Sheet posted on the website. Will keep you in the loop once a decision is made and finalized. Thanks!

Doug

-----Original Message-----

From: Gele, Kelly <Kelly.Gele@SPR.DOE.GOV>
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 8:45 AM
To: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>; McGarry, Thomas <thomas.mcgarry@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Oosterling, Paul S <paul.oosterling@spr.doe.gov>; McKean, Michael <michael.mckean@spr.doe.gov>; Selico, Leo <Leo.Selico@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Turner, Shenee <shenee.turner@hq.doe.gov>; Garland, Robert L (FE) <robert.garland@hq.doe.gov>; Roark, Mary C <mary.roark@spr.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: Sales of Reserves

Doug,

We typically respond thru the Sales mailbox.

Thanks,

Kelly

-----Original Message-----

From: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 7:29 AM
To: Gele, Kelly <Kelly.Gele@SPR.DOE.GOV>; McGarry, Thomas (HQ) <Thomas.McGarry@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Oosterling, Paul <Paul.Oosterling@SPR.DOE.GOV>; McKean, Michael <Michael.McKean@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Selico, Leo <Leo.Selico@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Turner, Shenee (HQ) <Shenee.Turner@hq.doe.gov>; Garland, Robert (HQ) <Robert.Garland@HQ.DOE.GOV>
Subject: [External] RE: Sales of Reserves

Is there a general email address we can use to reply? Can we use the sprassistance mailbox to respond or does the PMO have a general email address we can use?

Doug

-----Original Message-----

From: Gele, Kelly <Kelly.Gele@SPR.DOE.GOV>
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 8:00 AM
To: Macintyre, Douglas <douglas.macintyre@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: FW: Sales of Reserves

Doug

FYI - this is the second complaint we have received in the sales box

Kelly

-----Original Message-----

From: **(b) (6)**
Sent: Saturday, July 9, 2022 3:59 PM
To: SALES <Sales@SPR.DOE.GOV>
Subject: Sales of Reserves

I heard a rumor which I hope is false, that foreign companies are eligible to purchase crude from the SPR. Can you please tell me if this is true? Thank you, Debra Washabaugh

Providing Energy Security for America

Background

The Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) is the world's largest supply of emergency crude oil. Administered by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), these federally owned oil stocks are stored in massive underground salt caverns along the Texas and Louisiana coastlines of the Gulf of Mexico.

History

President Gerald Ford established the SPR in 1975 after the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) imposed an oil embargo against the United States, triggering an energy crisis that sent the U.S. economy into a recession. To mitigate damage from any future shortages of oil, DOE acquired several existing salt caverns along the Gulf of Mexico to serve as the first storage sites in 1977.

Mission

The SPR's purpose is to protect the U.S. economy from severe petroleum supply interruptions through the acquisition, storage, distribution and management of emergency petroleum stocks. It further serves to fulfill U.S. obligations under the International Energy Program (IEP). The IEP, a treaty in which the United States is a signatory, requires member countries to hold in reserve the equivalent of 90 days of net imports of oil and petroleum products.

Benefits

In the event of a oil supply disruption, the United States can turn to the SPR. These emergency stockpiles of crude oil are used to combat the potential market effects of both domestic and international disruptions caused by



weather, natural disasters, labor strikes, technical failures/accidents, political disputes or conflicts. The United States can also fill the SPR during times of demand destruction or oversupply to reduce shut in of U.S. oil production.

Management

The Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Office of Petroleum Reserves, located in Washington, D.C., has overall program responsibility for carrying out the mission of the SPR and for monitoring the SPR's operational readiness capability. The day-to-day operations for the SPR are managed by the SPR Project Management Office, located in New Orleans, LA.

Size

The SPR comprises 60 salt caverns. Each cavern is cylindrical in shape with an average diameter of about 200 feet and a height of 2,550 feet, which is large enough for Chicago's Willis Tower to fit inside with room to spare. With a storage capacity of up to 713.5 million barrels, as of March 31, 2022, the SPR currently holds just under 570 million barrels of crude oil. That amount of crude oil, refined into gasoline, could fill over 1.3 billion large sedans.

Use

In the event of a global or domestic supply disruption, the SPR can provide help to the U.S. economy through Presidential authorization by offering either a crude oil sale or exchange (i.e., a temporary loan of crude oil). The SPR can also be an option for U.S. oil producers to store crude oil when the demand drops dramatically. Storing crude oil in the SPR helps to alleviate the pressure on crude oil producers to shut in oil production. Thus, the SPR is a powerful tool U.S. leaders can use to respond to a wide range of crises involving crude oil disruption or demand loss.

Decisions to withdraw crude oil from the SPR are made by the President under the authority of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act. Generally, this will be done through a competitive sale. Additionally, the Secretary of Energy may authorize a limited release in the form of a test sale of up to 5 million barrels. The Secretary may also authorize exchanges, or a crude oil loan, with non-governmental entities. During an exchange, the Department may distribute SPR crude oil, for example, during a localized disruption through an exchange agreement, which takes only a few days to complete. The Department may also conduct a storage exchange and fill the SPR through a Request for Proposals process. In either case, winning bidders leave a small premium of oil to cover the SPR's costs.

Storage

More than 500 salt domes are concentrated along the Gulf Coast. Storage in salt formations provides safety and security, prevents evaporation or air emissions, offers low construction cost (1/3 of conventional surface tanks) and low operating costs. Additionally, many U.S. refineries and distribution points for tankers, barges and pipelines are located along the Gulf Coast and that proximity provides maximum flexibility to respond to supply interruptions.

Distribution

The SPR is always drawdown ready, which means it stands ready to release crude oil to the market within 13 days of Presidential direction; this is the time it takes to conduct the sale/exchange process, award contracts, and to arrange the logistics for oil transportation. The SPR can distribute its oil to nearly half of all U.S. oil refineries using available interstate pipelines or barges.

Centrally located along the Gulf Coast, the SPR connects by pipeline to 25 Gulf Coast refineries and 6 Midwest refineries, and is connected to 4 marine terminals, which makes shipping by ocean-going oil tankers feasible.

SPR Sales and Exchange

Drawdowns authorized by a Presidential finding to conduct a public sale of SPR crude oil are sold in a competitive auction to the highest bidder. The proceeds from such sale are placed into an account and later used to purchase crude oil back into the SPR. Drawdown authorized by an exchange is loaned to mostly non-government entities (usually an oil refiner) and returned to the SPR in full along with a premium of an additional quantity of crude oil.

Congressionally mandated drawdowns are required by law and require the SPR to sell crude oil in a competitive auction to the highest bidder. Funds from Congressionally mandated sales either go to the Treasury to help fund other government programs or to the SPR Modernization Program to repair aging equipment. Once the crude oil is sold from a mandated sale, the SPR does not replenish the oil sold.

For more information on the SPR, visit the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management's [website](#).

From: [Habbaz, Roy](#) on behalf of [Habbaz, Roy <Roy.Habbaz@SPR.DOE.GOV>](#)
To: [Gele, Lionel](#); [Oosterling, Paul S](#); [Roark, Christopher](#); [Rickner, Darryl](#)
Subject: House Republicans to probe Biden's SPR drawdown
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:00:16 PM

[House Republicans to probe Biden's SPR drawdown](#)

(b) (4)

From: [Gele, Lionel](#) on behalf of [Gele, Lionel <Lionel.Gele@SPR.DOE.GOV>](#)
To: [Oosterling, Paul S](#)
Subject: Fwd: [External] Argus: House Republicans to probe Biden's SPR drawdown
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:32:51 PM

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From: Roark, Christopher <Christopher.Roark@SPR.DOE.GOV>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:15:19 PM
To: Gele, Lionel <Lionel.Gele@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Habbaz, Roy <Roy.Habbaz@SPR.DOE.GOV>; Rickner, Darryl <Darryl.Rickner@SPR.DOE.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: [External] Argus: House Republicans to probe Biden's SPR drawdown

FYI

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From: Argus Alerts <noreply@argusalerts.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 12:58 PM
To: Roark, Christopher <Christopher.Roark@SPR.DOE.GOV>
Subject: [External] Argus: House Republicans to probe Biden's SPR drawdown

??

House Republicans to probe Biden's SPR drawdown

27 Oct 2022 11:54 (-06:00 GMT)

(b) (4)