



BIDEN'S "AMERICA LAST" ENERGY POLICY

In one of President Trump's last weeks in office (Dec. 27 – Jan. 2), the U.S. imported no crude oil from Saudi Arabia for the first time in 35 years, marking newfound American energy independence.¹ Sadly, within days of taking office President Biden made it clear that he wants to abandon this independence and pursue an "America Last" energy policy.

In his first week, President Biden punished Americans and our Canadian allies with his executive order to cancel the Keystone XL Pipeline. This can only be described as trickle-down unemployment.

- With the stroke of a pen, more than 1,000 men and women lost their jobs. Over 10,000 jobs and \$1.6 billion in gross wages that were planned will now not come to fruition.²
- Ron Berringer, a second-generation pipeline worker from Clarinda, Iowa, was one of those immediately laid off. He said his future looks "gloomy."³
 - As a result of the layoff, he can no longer afford to replace his work truck, and will have to reduce the financial help he sends to his two adult daughters.
- Tyler Noel, from Aberdeen, South Dakota, is another worker fired because of Biden's actions, and finds John Kerry's suggestion that "they can make solar panels" or other renewables hollow.⁴
 - Tyler said, "I'm a foreman. My trade is in labor. The money is so much better running a crew. I wouldn't be anywhere near that doing a wind turbine, which I've never done."
- In addition to the damage to America's job market, Biden's actions have killed jobs in Canada and strained ties with one of our closest allies.
 - Alberta Premier Jason Kenney has called for "proportional economic consequences" and called the decision, "a deeply disturbing precedent for any future projects and collaboration between our two nations."⁵
- Russia and the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), on the other hand, are likely pleased that Biden is protecting their business and making it harder for Canadian oil to get to the world market.

Biden's decision to place a moratorium on federal oil and gas leasing, combined with his goal to ban hydraulic fracking, is a dream come true for Russia and OPEC as they seek to return the U.S. to its position of energy dependence.

- Due to the shale revolution and lifting the ban on oil and gas exports, the U.S. has gone from being at the mercy of conflicts in the Middle East to the world's largest oil and gas producer⁶.
- But true to Biden's "America Last" foreign policy approach, he is now seeking to destroy U.S. energy independence, and leave the U.S. and the world reliant on Russia and the Middle East.
 - Banning fracking, as Biden has promised to do, would eliminate 19 million jobs between 2021-2025, according to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.⁷
 - The American Petroleum Institute estimated that the Democrat's desired ban on oil and gas development on federal lands would cause nearly 1 million Americans to lose their jobs and that the U.S. would spend \$500 billion importing gas from places like Russia.⁸

Under Biden’s policies, American workers who have given the U.S. clean, reliable, and affordable energy would be unable to put food on the table and would be reliant on Vladimir Putin to heat their homes and fill up their cars.

Instead of selling out American workers and subjecting the U.S. to energy dependence, President Biden should reverse these poor decisions, streamline the oil and gas development permitting process, and allow the U.S. to continue to reduce local and global emissions through the utilization of our natural resources.

¹ Tobben, Sheela and Lee, Julian. “U.S. Imports No Saudi Crude for First Time in 35 Years”. *Bloomberg*. January 6, 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-01-06/saudi-oil-exports-to-u-s-at-zero-for-first-time-in-35-years>

² Guz, Melissa. “VERIFY: Yes, jobs lost from President Biden canceling Keystone XL Pipeline, but not as many as you think”. *WKYC Studios*. January 27, 2021. <https://www.wkyc.com/article/news/verify/verify-yes-thousands-jobs-lost-after-biden-axes-keystone-xl-pipeline-but-not-as-many-as-these-posts-claim/77-8955155e-457d-4fc2-bbd9-35ea8df83ee3> and

“TC Energy Awards More Than \$1.6 billion in American Contracts to Build Keystone XL, Project to Create Over 8,000 Union Jobs in 2021”. *TC Energy*. October 28, 2020. [https://www.tcenergy.com/announcements/2020/2020-10-28-tc-energy-awards-more-than-\\$1.6-billion-in-american-contracts-to-build-keystone-xl-project-to-create-over-8000-union-jobs-in-2021/](https://www.tcenergy.com/announcements/2020/2020-10-28-tc-energy-awards-more-than-$1.6-billion-in-american-contracts-to-build-keystone-xl-project-to-create-over-8000-union-jobs-in-2021/)

³ Korte, Cara. ““It makes you want to give up.” Keystone workers feel left behind by Biden executive orders”. *CBS News*. February 4, 2021. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/keystone-xl-pipeline-workers-biden-executive-orders/?ftag=CNM-00-10aab7e&linkId=110721586>

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Anderson, Drew. “In letter to PM, Kenney calls for consequences or compensation over Keystone XL cancellation”. *CBC News*. January 22, 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/kenney-trudeau-letter-keystone-xl-1.5883751>

⁶ “The U.S. leads global petroleum and natural gas production with record growth in 2018”. *U.S. Energy Information Administration*. August 20, 2019. <https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=40973>

⁷ “New Chamber Analysis Quantifies Economic Risks of Proposed Fracking Ban”. *U.S. Chamber of Commerce*. December 19, 2019. <https://www.globalenergyinstitute.org/new-chamber-analysis-quantifies-economic-risks-proposed-fracking-ban>

⁸ “New Analysis Shows Ban On Leasing And Development On Federal Lands And Waters Would Threaten U.S. Energy Security, American Jobs And Environmental Progress”. *American Petroleum Institute*. September 9, 2020. <https://www.api.org/news-policy-and-issues/news/2020/09/09/ban-on-leasing-and-development-on-federal-lands-and-waters>