

November 27, 2012

The Honorable Harry Reid
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
235 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Reid, Leader McConnell, Speaker Boehner, and Leader Pelosi:

As the post-election session of the 112th Congress seeks agreement on a plan to avoid automatic tax increases and spending cuts by the end of the year, the undersigned oil and natural gas organizations believe it is critical that any solution embraces a pro-growth objective focusing on job creation and avoids targeted tax increases on particular industries.

Throughout the economic downturn, America's oil and natural gas industry has provided one of the few bright spots as the economy struggles toward recovery. Through hundreds of billions of dollars invested to develop vast new oil and natural gas reserves, and to expand our refining capacity, this industry is not only producing the energy a growing economy demands, but also creating tens of thousands of high paying jobs while generating billions in new revenue for the government. Therefore, any attempts to target the oil and natural gas industry for punitive tax treatment should be avoided as higher taxes could put the economic growth we've created at risk.

We fully recognize that a solution to the debt and deficit crisis facing the nation must be found. However, tax and revenue issues are best addressed as part of a comprehensive tax reform effort. We look forward to being part of constructive efforts post-Lame Duck when all issues, and all taxpayers, are considered equally – while providing an opportunity to remain focused on economic growth and competitiveness. Attempts to repeal or reduce normal business tax provisions for our industry outside of comprehensive tax reform could reduce investment, cost jobs, reduce government revenue, and make it even harder to achieve equitable tax reform.

Exit polls from the election show that nearly 3 out of 4 voters support expanded American production of oil and natural gas, and more than 9 of 10 voters believe more production will create jobs. We're proud of the role we're playing to boost a recovering economy, and urge you to ensure we may continue to do so.

Sincerely,



Jack Gerard
President & CEO
American Petroleum Institute



V. Bruce Thompson
President
American Exploration and Production Council



Regina Hopper
President & CEO
America's National Gas Alliance



Henry Armour
President & CEO
National Association of Convenience Stores



Randal Luthi
President
National Ocean Industries Association



Chris Cragg
Chairman
Petroleum Equipment Suppliers Association



Kenneth A. Doyle
Executive Vice President
SIGMA



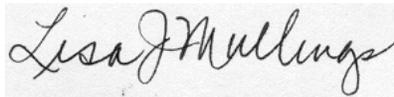
Kenny Jordan
Executive Director
Association of Energy Service Companies



Charles T. Drevna
President & CEO
American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers



Barry Russell
President & CEO
Independent Petroleum Association of America



Lisa Mullings
President & CEO
National Association of Truck Stop Operators



R. Skip Horvath
President & CEO
Natural Gas Supply Association



Dan Gilligan
President
Petroleum Marketers Association of America



Albert Modiano
President
US Oil & Gas Association

CC: All Members of the United States Congress