



NEWS

For Release: February 15, 2010

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BAN ON DRILLING ALONG U.S. OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF COULD COST U.S. TRILLIONS

(Washington, D.C.) -- R. Skip Horvath, president and CEO of the Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA), made the following statement on the release of a groundbreaking new study on the negative effects resulting from a moratorium on drilling for natural gas.

“This landmark study attests that a drilling ban along the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and some restricted onshore lands carries an estimated adverse effect on the GDP of more than \$2 trillion between now and 2030. By not allowing drilling in the OCS and many restricted onshore areas, the study estimates that 285 trillion cubic feet of natural gas will remain off-limits to the American people; enough to meet our needs for more than 12 years at current levels of consumption. Natural gas is important to the economy and essential to our environmental goals. It is low in emissions, provides jobs for millions of people, produces 25 percent of our energy and generates billions in revenue for the nation. We look forward to working with the Administration as it moves forward in allowing assessments of our natural gas resources in the Atlantic OCS.”

The [study](#) was administered by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and conducted by SAIC and the Gas Technology Institute. It assessed the financial and environmental impact of existing moratoria on energy exploration and production on federal lands, both on-shore and within the 200 mile limit along U.S. coastlines. The analysis, combining the estimated increase in the natural gas and oil resource base with maintaining moratoria from 2009-2030 shows that:

- Cumulative natural gas production decreases by 9 percent;
- Average natural gas price increases by 17 percent;
- Average electricity prices increase by 5 percent;
- Cumulative national real disposable income decreases by \$1.2 Trillion (\$4,500 per capita);
- GDP decreases cumulatively by \$2.36 trillion, an average annual decrease of 0.52 percent.

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NGSA represents integrated and independent companies that supply natural gas. Established in 1965, NGSA encourages the use of natural gas within a balanced national energy policy, and promotes the benefits of competitive markets to ensure reliable and efficient transportation and delivery of natural gas and to increase the supply of natural gas to U.S. customers. For more information, please visit www.ngsa.org, www.naturalgas.org and www.bluejobs.org

Clean Natural Gas: Smart, Secure and Essential