Martin Heinrich wants to drastically curtail oil and gas drilling, forcing us to rely on foreign adversaries like Russia, Iran, and Venezuela for energy.

In 2012, Heinrich voted against authorizing offshore drilling.

- **In 2012, Heinrich voted against almost doubling the number of offshore oil and gas drilling leases.** "Passage of the bill that would replace the Interior Department's current offshore oil and gas drilling plan with one that would establish a timeline for 29 specific leases, up from the current 15. Certain leases would be conducted under a 2009 draft regulation rather than the 2012 plan. It also would require the Interior Department to prepare a multi-lease environmental impact statement for any leases required under the bill not in the June 2012 plan." (HR 6082, Roll Call Vote #511: Passed by a vote of 253-170:, 7/25/12, Heinrich Voted Nay)

- **In 2012, Heinrich voted for a three year plan to open up half the number of offshore oil and gas leases than the Republican proposed alternative.** "Hastings, R-Wash., motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill that would direct the Interior secretary to implement the administration's Proposed Final Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program. It would authorize 12 oil and gas drilling leases in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as three leases near Alaska through 2017. The plan would require the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to study the fair market value of leasing areas and not sell any area for less than the determined value." (HR 6168, Roll Call Vote #512: Motion rejected by a vote of 164-261, 7/25/12, Heinrich Voted Yea)

In 2015, Heinrich voted against an amendment to overhaul the process for issuing drilling permits.

- **In January 2015, Heinrich voted against an amendment that would have "overhaul[ed] the process for issuing drilling permits."** "Lee, R-Utah, amendment no. 71 to the Murkowski substitute amendment no. 2. The Lee amendment would overhaul the process for issuing drilling permits. It would require the Interior secretary to provide a decision on whether to issue permits within 30 days after receiving applications, unless the applicant is given specific written notice of an extension. Applications would be considered approved if a decision or extension has not been made within 60 days, unless existing environmental reviews are incomplete. After 180 days, the application would be considered to have no significant impact on the environment and not likely to jeopardize endangered or threatened species. If a permit is denied, the amendment would require the Interior Department to provide specific reasons for denial and allow applicants to resubmit applications within 10 days. Permit denials would not be subject to judicial review. The substitute amendment would immediately allow TransCanada to construct, connect, operate and maintain the pipeline and cross-border facilities known as the Keystone XL pipeline." (S. Amdt. 71 To S. Amdt. 2 To S. 1, Roll Call Vote #17: Rejected 51-47, Heinrich Voted Nay, 1/22/15; CQ Summary Accessed 9/21/15)

Heinrich has voted repeatedly against drilling in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR).

- **In December 2017, Heinrich voted against the final tax reform bill, which opened up ANWR for drilling.** "McConnell, R-Ky., motion to concur in the conference report to accompany the bill with a further amendment. The bill would revise the federal income tax system by lowering the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent; lowering individual tax rates through 2025; limiting state and local deductions to $10,000 through 2025; decreasing the limit on deductible mortgage debt through 2025; and creating a new system of taxing U.S. corporations with foreign subsidiaries. Specifically, it would repeal personal exemptions and would roughly double the standard deduction through 2025. It would raise the child tax credit to $2,000 through 2025, would repeal the alternative minimum tax for corporations and provide for broader exemptions to the tax for individuals through 2025. It would double individual exemptions to the estate tax and gift tax through 2025, and would establish a new top tax rate for "pass-through" business income through 2025." (H.R. 1, Roll Call Vote #323: Passed 51-48, 12/20/17, Heinrich Voted Nay; CQ Summary, Accessed 12/20/17)

- **In December 2017, Heinrich voted for an amendment that would strike opening ANWR for drilling from the tax reform bill.** "Cantwell, D-Wash., motion to waive all applicable sections of the Congressional Budget Act with respect to the Murkowski, R-Alaska, point of order that the Cantwell amendment no. 1717 to the McConnell, R-Ky., for Hatch, R-Utah, substitute amendment no. 1618 violates section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act. The amendment would remove the provisions of the bill that would open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas drilling." (S.Amdt. 1717 to S.Amdt. 1618 to H.R. 1, Roll Call Vote #301: Motion Rejected 48-52, 12/2/17, Heinrich Voted Yea; CQ Summary, Accessed 12/4/17)

- **In October 2017, Heinrich voted against allowing oil and gas development within ANWR.** "To strike the reconciliation instructions for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate to prevent oil and gas development within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge." (S.Amdt. 1301 to S.Amdt. 1116 to H.Con.Res. 71, Roll Call Vote #243: Amendment Rejected 48-52, 10/19/17, Heinrich Voted Yea; CQ Summary, Accessed 10/19/17)

Heinrich opposed President Trump's decision to ease oil and gas permitting.

- **Martin Heinrich opposed President Trump's decision to ease oil and gas permitting.**

SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2020

NO, TRUMP, YOU ARE NOT A GREAT ENVIRONMENTALIST LIKE TEDDY ROOSEVELT: SEN. HEINRICH

Earlier this month in Florida, President Donald Trump absurdly called himself "the great environmentalist." That's right. The guy, who repealed or weakened more than a hundred environmental protections, proposed unbridled oil and gas leasing on millions of acres of lands and waters, and still denies climate science even as apocalyptic wildfires and hurricanes devastate communities, now expects us to believe he's "number one since Teddy Roosevelt."

(Martin Heinrich, Press Release, 9/20/20)

- **The policies hyperlinked to Heinrich's press release link to a Reuters article discussing Trump's proposal of easing oil and gas permitting.** "The Trump administration on Monday issued a proposal that would make it easier to permit oil and gas drilling operations in national forests, angering environmental groups who said the move would harm wildlife and increase greenhouse gas emissions." (Nichola Groom, "Trump administration proposes easing oil and gas permitting in national forests," Reuters, 8/31/20)

<u>Heinrich tried to impose burdensome federal regulations on oil and gas producers in New Mexico.</u>

- **Martin Heinrich sponsored and introduced H.R. 5759.**

H.R.5759 - Protecting Rural Landscapes Act of 2010

111th Congress (2009-2010)

BILL Hide Overview ✕

Sponsor: Rep. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM-1] (Introduced 07/15/2010)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/20/2010 Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources. (All Actions)

Tracker: Introduced

(H.R. 5759, Congress.gov, Accessed: 8/4/23)

- **H.R. 5759 would have required a person with the legal right to conduct oil and gas operations on covered land to compensate the surface owner for damages.** "Protecting Rural Landscapes Act of 2010 - Amends the Mineral Leasing Act, with respect to the lease of oil and gas lands, to require a person with the legal right to conduct oil and gas operations on covered land (operator) to compensate the surface owner for damages resulting from: (1) loss of agricultural production and income; (2) lost land value; (3) lost use of and lost access to the land; and (4) the lost value of improvements. Requires the operator to reclaim the affected surface. Requires the operator to give notice prior to: (1) initial entry for activities that do not disturb the surface; and (2) commencing oil and gas operations. Requires the operator, at the time of providing notice of commencement of oil and gas operations, to provide the surface owner with a proposed surface use agreement that includes an offer of compensation for damages to the surface affected by oil and gas operations." (Protecting Rural Landscapes of 2010, Congress.gov, Accessed: 8/4/23)

In August 2022, Heinrich voted against an amendment to the Inflation Reduction Act that would have required Biden's Interior Secretary to develop and implement a new five-year plan for oil and gas production in the Gulf of Mexico.

- **Heinrich voted against an amendment to "require oil and gas lease sales in the outer Continental Shelf."** (Kennedy Amendment No. 5387, Amendment Rejected 50-50, Heinrich Voted Nay, 08/07/22)

- **The amendment to the Inflation Reduction Act would have mandated oil and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico.** "Sen. John Kennedy (R-La.) today introduced an amendment to the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 to unleash U.S. energy production by mandating oil and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico." (Press Release, "Kennedy introduces amendment to return U.S. to energy independence, bring energy jobs back to Louisiana," The Office of Senator John Kennedy, 08/06/22)

- **The amendment required the Department of the Interior to authorize two leases per year for year years in the Gulf of Mexico, and requires the department to authorize one lease in the Cook Inlet.** "Kennedy's amendment requires the Department of the Interior to authorize two leases per year for five years in the Gulf of Mexico to oil producers, and requires the department to authorize one lease in the Cook Inlet." (Press Release, "Kennedy introduces amendment to return U.S. to energy independence, bring energy jobs back to Louisiana," The Office of Senator John Kennedy, 08/06/22)

- **Per the text of the amendment, it would require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct no fewer than 10 lease sales under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act during the period "beginning on July 1, 2022 and ending on June 30, 2027."**

SEC. 502____. MANDATORY OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OIL AND GAS LEASE SALES.

(a) GULF OF MEXICO OIL AND GAS LEASE SALES.—

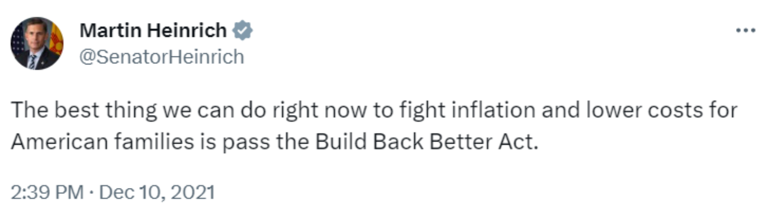
(1) REQUIREMENT.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of the Interior (acting through the Director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management) (referred to in this section as the "Secretary") shall conduct not fewer than 10 area-wide oil and gas lease sales under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) during the period beginning on July 1, 2022, and ending on June 30, 2027.

(Press Release, Text of Kennedy Amendment No. 5387, "Kennedy introduces amendment to return U.S. to energy independence, bring energy jobs back to Louisiana," The Office of Senator John Kennedy, 08/06/22)

- **The amendment was supported by the American Petroleum Institute, National Ocean Industries Association, International Association of Drilling Contractors, Consumer Energy Alliance, International Association of Geophysical Chemistry, and the Petroleum Equipment and Service Association.** "Support for this legislation includes the Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, American Petroleum Institute, National Ocean Industries Association, International Association of Drilling Contractors, Consumer Energy Alliance, International Association for Geophysical Chemistry, Petroleum Equipment and Service Association and others." (Press Release, "Kennedy introduces amendment to return U.S. to energy independence, bring energy jobs back to Louisiana," The Office of Senator John Kennedy, 08/06/22)

Heinrich supported the Build Back Better Act, which would impose a natural gas tax, increase royalties on domestic energy production, block previously authorized energy production and future energy exploration, and increase U.S. dependence on foreign adversaries such as Russia and China.

- **In December 2021, Heinrich tweeted his support for passing the Build Back Better Act.** (Martin Heinrich, Twitter, 12/10/21)



(Martin Heinrich, Twitter, 12/10/21)

Editor's Note: *The version of the Build Back Better Act referenced is the one that passed the House of Representatives on November 19, 2021. The Senate did not vote on Build Back Better; however, several Senators supported the legislation.*

- **The Build Back Better Act would introduce a methane fee that could raise costs for consumers.** "Buried inside the 'Build Back Better' plan that cleared the House of Representatives on Friday morning is a new tax on natural gas production that will likely translate into higher heating bills for American households. The new tax is aimed at curbing methane emissions and will apply fees to companies that produce, process, transmit or store oil and natural gas starting in 2023. The specific fees will depend on where the natural gas is produced and will vary depending on how much methane is released into the atmosphere during the process. Overall, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that the new 'methane fee' will generate about $8 billion over the next 10 years. The natural gas industry says that money will end up coming directly out of consumers' wallets." (Eric Boehm, "House-Passed 'Build Back Better' Plan Aims To Curb Methane Emissions by Hiking Heating Prices," *Reason*, 11/19/21)

- **Per the American Petroleum Institute, the methane tax included in the Build Back Better Act could cost the economy as much as "$9.1 billion and as many as 90,000 jobs."** "Perhaps most importantly, the tax in the House Energy and Commerce bill will generate significant costs and loss of jobs. The methane tax is a tax on oil and natural gas which could have harmful impacts on America's economy and jobs. At $1,500 a ton, the potential cost of the bill's methane fee to the economy could be as high as $9.1 billion and as many as 90,000 jobs could be lost." (American Petroleum Institute, "Methane Fee Opposition Letter," 9/12/21)

  - **The House approved Build Back Better Act included a fee reaching $1,500 per ton on methane as of 2025.** "Language approved by the House represents a compromise that would slap a rising fee on excess emissions at oil and gas facilities, reaching $1,500 per ton in 2025, along with $775 million in subsidies for companies that take steps to reduce emissions." (Matthew Daly, "Dems confident on methane fee as budget bill moves to Senate," *AP News*, 11/22/21)

- **The Build Back Better Act would raise the royalty rates for all new oil, gas, and coal leases from 12.5% to 20%, and in some cases up to 25%.** "In the Build Back Better bill, minimum onshore royalty rates would be increased from 12.5% to 20%, while higher royalty rates of 16.67% would be increased to 25%. Offshore production royalties would be increased across the board from 12.5% to 20%." (Mark Passwaters, "Biden's Build Back Better bill would ban drilling offshore Florida, increase royalty rates," *Upstream Online*, 11/4/21)

- **Build Back Better would restrict the Secretary of the Interior from issuing any lease or authorization for "exploration, development, or production of oil or natural gas" in specific planning areas.** "SEC. 71301. PROTECTION OF THE EASTERN GULF, ATLANTIC, AND PACIFIC COASTS. The Secretary of the Interior may not issue a lease or any other authorization for the exploration, development, or production of oil or natural gas in any of the planning areas on the Outer Continental Shelf in the Pacific Region Planning Areas, in the Atlantic Region Planning Areas, or in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico Planning Area identified on the map entitled 'Outer Continental Shelf Lower 48 States Planning Areas' and dated October 18, 2021." (Rules Committee Print 117-18, "Text of H.R. 5376 Build Back Better Act," Page 922, 11/3/21)

  - **The Build Back Better Act would block previously authorized domestic energy production in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.** "The law would, if passed, repeal in its entirety the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Oil and Gas Program, cancel any leases issued pursuant to the same section of the related law, and return all payments for leases to the lessees within 30 days of enactment of the act. It also reinstates the prohibition of oil and gas leasing in certain areas of the Outer Continental Shelf, amends on and offshore fossil fuel royalty rates, and changes or introduces other fees related to fossil fuel exploration and development." (Beth Verge, "Biden administration takes aim at ANWR in Build Back Better Act," *Alaska's News Source*, 10/29/21)

- **The Build Back Better Act would also block future domestic energy exploration efforts in the eastern Gulf of Mexico, and in areas off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.** "The measure is part of the bill's climate-related issues and would permanently ban leasing of areas set off limits by the Gulf of Mexico Security Act of 2006, which includes the eastern Gulf of Mexico. It would also ban drilling in areas off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts currently off limits in the 2017-2022 leasing programme." (Mark Passwaters, "Biden's Build Back Better bill would ban drilling offshore Florida, increase royalty rates," *Upstream Online*, 11/4/21)

- **"In fact, the proposed methane fee alone will disincentivize domestic producers of traditional energy, add burdensome costs, and raise prices for everyday Americans while increasing our dependence on foreign adversaries for our energy needs, putting our national security at risk."** (AAPL, "AAPL President James T. Devlin, CPL, Delivers Letter to U.S. Senators on Build Back Better Act," Blog, 12/1/21)

Reducing domestic oil and gas production forces the U.S. to rely on energy production in Russia, Venezuela, and Iran.

- **Curtailing drilling does not reduce domestic demand for oil, forcing the U.S. to find it somewhere else.** "According to reports, Biden wants to cancel drilling leases in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, or ANWR, which would deny Americans access to around a total of 11 billion barrels of oil (though it could be much more)… First, just because Americans don't have access to this domestic source of oil doesn't mean that they will not still demand oil. It will just likely have to come from somewhere else and be more expensive. The CO_2 is still going to be released. Even if not producing the oil in ANWR somehow led to oil not being used in the aggregate, the amount of CO_2 saved would be meaningless in global warming terms. The Heritage Foundation's chief statistician, Kevin Dayaratna, has investigated exactly this point using the same models government agencies use. He found that eliminating all U.S. greenhouse gas emissions would reduce temperatures by less than 0.2 degrees Celsius by the year 2100. In other words, this oil has literally no meaningful impact on world CO_2 levels." (Jack Spencer, "Joe Biden's Knockout Punch for American Energy Independence," *Heritage Foundation*, 9/11/23)

- **In 2022, Biden sought to increase oil production in Venezuela and Iran to offset the potential loss of Russian oil exports.** "President Joe Biden's urgent global search for help shutting off Russia's oil revenues is leading, in some instances, to regimes he once sought to isolate or avoid. Biden administration officials traveled to Venezuela over the weekend for talks on potentially allowing the country to sell its oil on the international market, helping to replace Russian fuel. Biden may travel to Saudi Arabia as the US works to convince the kingdom to increase its production. And a looming nuclear deal could bring significant volumes of Iranian oil back to the market. Caracas, Riyadh and Tehran would have been unlikely sources of relief for a Biden-led Western alliance before the start of the war in Ukraine. But Russia's invasion has upended international relations, forcing the US and other nations to seek out solutions in places they'd previously shunned." (Kevin Liptake, Phil Mattingly, Natasha Bertrand, MJ Lee, Kylie Atwood, "Biden turns to countries he once sought to avoid to find help shutting off Russia's oil money," *CNN*, 3/8/22)

  - **Republicans argued that increasing U.S. energy production would better offset the loss of Russian oil.** "Republican Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida – a state that's home to a large population of Venezuelan Americans who oppose the Maduro regime – has already criticized the discussions. He said over the weekend that 'rather than produce more American oil,' Biden 'wants to replace the oil we buy from one murderous dictator with oil from another murderous dictator.' And Republican Sen. Rick Scott of Florida, who is the head of the Senate GOP campaign committee, said: 'We should stop importing Russian oil, period. And we shouldn't be going to Venezuela. … When are we going to learn that we can't be relying on these thugs?'" (Kevin Liptake, Phil Mattingly, Natasha Bertrand, MJ Lee, Kylie Atwood, "Biden turns to countries he once sought to avoid to find help shutting off Russia's oil money," *CNN*, 3/8/22)

- **In 2023, during a spike in oil prices and immediately after banning some Alaskan oil production, the Biden Administration announced the easing of sanctions on Venezuela, allowing U.S. imports of Venezuelan oil despite a longstanding policy of isolating the country.** "The Biden administration said Wednesday it will ease sanctions against companies that trade in oil produced in Venezuelan or invest in the South American country's oil industry in response to its new agreement to allow free elections next year. The move reverses years of U.S. policy aimed at unseating President Nicolás Maduro — and even before the administration announced it late Wednesday, Republicans were accusing Biden of once again coddling unfriendly oil-producing countries. While the move could help increase the flow of Venezuelan oil into the global crude market, it is not expected to do much to bring down prices that have remained stubbornly high amid turmoil in Europe and the Middle East… But news of sanctions relief left Republicans fuming. Lifting the financial penalties is 'beyond absurd,' Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski, who has criticized the administration for restoring a ban on oil production in some of Alaska's wilderness, said in a statement this week." (Ben Lefebvre, "Biden eases sanctions on Venezuelan oil and Republicans howl," *Politico*, 10/18/23)

  - **Republicans criticized Biden for "beg[ging] for oil from socialist dictators" and "importing oil from our adversaries."** "Sen. John Barrasso of Wyoming, the No. 3 Republican in the Senate, followed suit: 'With Israel under attack, Biden is desperate for anything to mask the consequences of his reckless policies,' he said in a statement. 'His latest gimmick is to ease sanctions on Nicolas Maduro's brutal regime in Venezuela. America should never beg for oil from socialist dictators or terrorists,' said Barrasso, who is also the ranking Republican on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Republican Sen. Kevin Cramer of North Dakota said this week he was submitting a bill that would prohibit the importation of crude oil and other fossil fuels Venezuela — and from Iran, though Biden has never proposed to lift the long-standing U.S. ban on fuel purchases from that country. The U.S. refining industry used to be a large importer of Venezuelan crude, at one point spending billions of dollars to update its machinery to be able to better process the heavy oil." (Ben Lefebvre, "Biden eases sanctions on Venezuelan oil and Republicans howl," *Politico*, 10/18/23)

- **Analysts at the Macquarie Group found that, in order to maintain the global supply of oil, the Biden Administration has refused to disrupt Iranian and Russian oil exports.** "However it's done, removing Iran's millions of barrels a day would have a significant impact on the global oil market, even though none of the Iranian oil goes to the United States. Iran was the world's eighth-largest oil producer last year, producing about 3 percent of the global supply — well below the U.S. and Saudi Arabia but just ahead of Brazil and Kuwait. For that reason, the financial services firm Macquarie Group said in a note to to clients Monday that it doesn't expect Biden to tighten curbs on Iranian oil shipments. 'In our assessment, the Biden administration's policy approach has been to limit oil supply disruptions, regardless of the situation,' the firm's analysts wrote. 'Given that policy objectives did not target Russian oil flows even at the height of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, we do not expect Iranian oil exports to be constrained either.' Worries about rising fuel prices shouldn't deter the U.S. from cracking down, some lawmakers argued." (Manuel Quinones, Bob King, "Biden's choice: Let Iranian oil flow or watch prices rise," *Politico*, 10/12/23)