

March 11, 2013

To: Colorado Springs Mayor
Colorado Springs City Council

Subject: Fracking & Fossil Fuel use

An edited version of the attached article, "Oil Exports Soar", was published in the *Colorado Springs Business Journal* on 1/4/13: "Reality about oil imports, exports might surprise you."

It documents that, as oil corporations drill for oil and gas across the U.S. and hope to do in Colorado Springs, they export U.S. energy resources. As the graphs show, oil corporations reduced imports by 30% from 2005 through 2011 and increased U.S. oil exports by 48% more than imports declined (imports down by 433B barrels; exports up by 338B barrels).

They deplete U.S. reserves while polluting U.S. water, air, and environment.

Calls of Drill, Baby, Drill and Drill Here, Drill Now falsely imply that more drilling activity is for U.S. consumption. Clearly, the data shows this is not so for oil. It's also not so for gas. The plan: export it.

From: "With natural gas so abundant and cheap, should U.S. export it?" By Sean Cockerham
McClatchy Newspapers, March 9, 2013, <http://www.kansas.com/2013/03/09/2709594/with-natural-gas-so-abundant-and.html>

The Department of Energy is considering 16 applications for terminals to export American natural gas to energy-hungry countries such as Japan, China and India. The White House hasn't made a decision.

Senior White House energy adviser Heather Zichal said America had the lowest natural-gas prices in the world. That makes the nation attractive for business, she said.

"The abundance of affordable natural gas is supporting a new dawn in American manufacturing," she said last week at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

From an 8/15/11 Department of Energy memo to the Acting Administrator of the Energy Information Administration from the COO of the Office of Fossil Energy [www.eia.gov/analysis/requests/fe/pdf/fe_ing.pdf]:

Applications submitted to DOE/FE total 5.6 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas to be exported from the United States, equal to over 8 percent of U.S. natural gas consumption in 2015 ...

All the while, this is done with exemptions for fracking from requirements in the underground injection control (UIC) program of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the Clean Air Act, and the Clean Water Act. Any benefits will be temporary, the damage forever ... and tax payers subsidize it. This is insane.

It's bad enough that CSU rate payers foot the bill -- effectively being taxed -- for the Southern Delivery System to pump water uphill using even more energy; it's a subsidy for growth industry interests (cost-side socialists who redistribute their costs of doing business onto the public). What's even worse is that fracking doesn't just use water, it destroys it for further use. Thinking disposal is possible without it re-entering the water table defies common sense.

Don't allow fracking. Instead, help the U.S. increase the use of renewables. I have personally; in 2011, I generated 40% more electric than I used. See my installation: <http://www.tigoenergy.com/site.php?bobsolar>.

Global warming is real. Human use of fossil fuels is creating an uninhabitable planet.
Stop it. There is NO PLANET B.

Sincerely,

Bob Powell