

March 11, 2011

Representative Doug Lamborn
1271 Kelly Johnson Blvd. Suite 110
Colorado Springs, CO 80920

cc: 437 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Lamborn,

On your website you have this:

"The most urgent and immediate solution though is to ramp up domestic production of oil and gas right now. As a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources, I support utilizing the vast resources our nation has to offer. We can take positive steps to lower energy prices immediately, if only the majority leadership in Congress is willing to bring production measures to a vote."

There is no other way to put this: That it is a lie.

Here's a summary of why:

There should be no offshore oil and gas leasing, nor increased U.S. production, (1) because exporting is depleting U.S. oil resources and (2) because of negative impacts on the environment. Amazing quantities of oil, 24% of imports, are being exported from the United States, not to meet U.S. needs, but to increase Oil Corporation profits. This is a 150% increase over exports/imports ratio in 2003. As imports have fallen, exports have risen by close to the same amount. To lower prices to increase economic and national security we must stop exporting oil. Oil corporation behavior is a betrayal of U.S. interests. The entire industry should be nationalized to serve the public interest.

The data presented below documents these points. My questions to you are:

- Why are you lying to your constituents and America?
- Why are you representing Oil Corporation interests rather than those of the American people?
- Why are you pursuing policies that increase Oil Corporation profits, rather than working to lower energy prices?
- Why are you committing economic treason, undermining U.S. economic and national security?

This is incredible! The "conservative" mantra is that there's a shortage and it's necessary to "drill here, drill now, pay less"!? Far from it. Oil corporations are making a killing while killing the environment and the U.S. economy.

Oil corporations pollute the Gulf and other U.S. waters and land. But, because the U.S. economy has collapsed, rather than selling that oil here at lower prices, they're exporting it to increase profits both here and abroad. Oil corporations are making a killing while the increased cost of oil and gasoline are a major factor contributing to weakening the U.S. economy. But never mind the economy, oil corporation subsidies and profits are the priority. They are explicitly the Republican priority and *your* priority.

This is "privatize the profits and socialize the costs" on a massive scale. I don't put much past either the oil corporations or the "conservatives" who support them, but even I am shocked at this.

See the graphs just below. Data here in this file that's has data in terms of "2005 Chain-weighted Dollars":
Data: <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/statistics/historical/>
File: <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/statistics/historical/realpetr.xls>

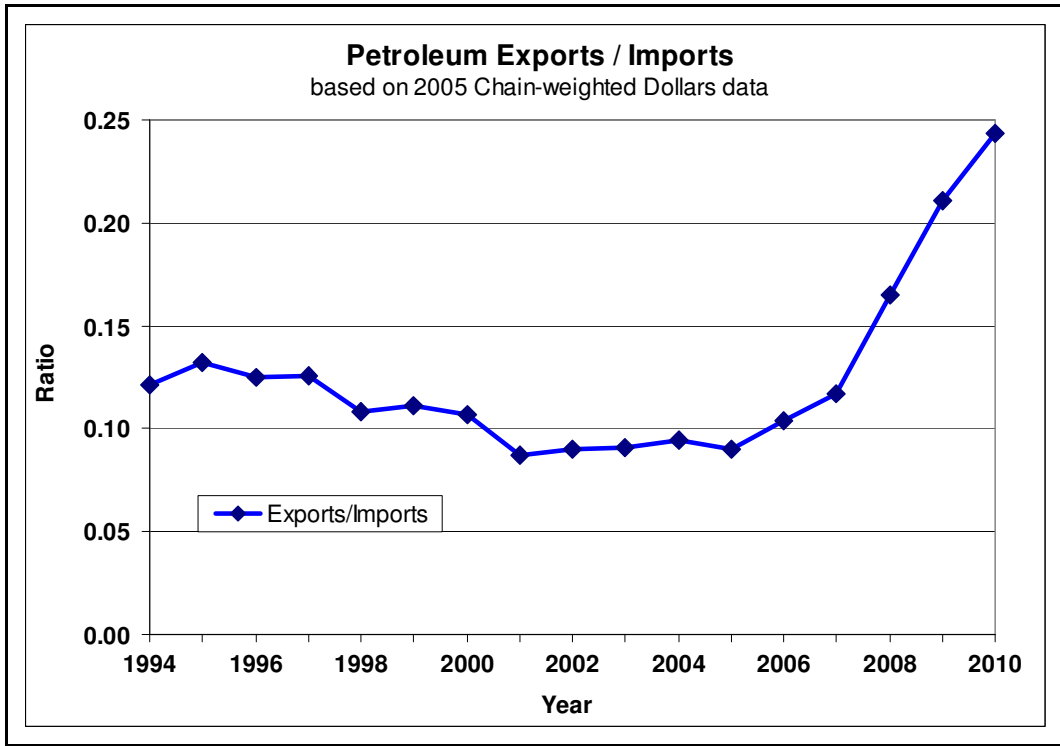


Figure 1. Amazing! U.S. petroleum exports have risen from ~10% of imports to a whopping 24%. The U.S. now exports about 1/4 as much oil as it imports!

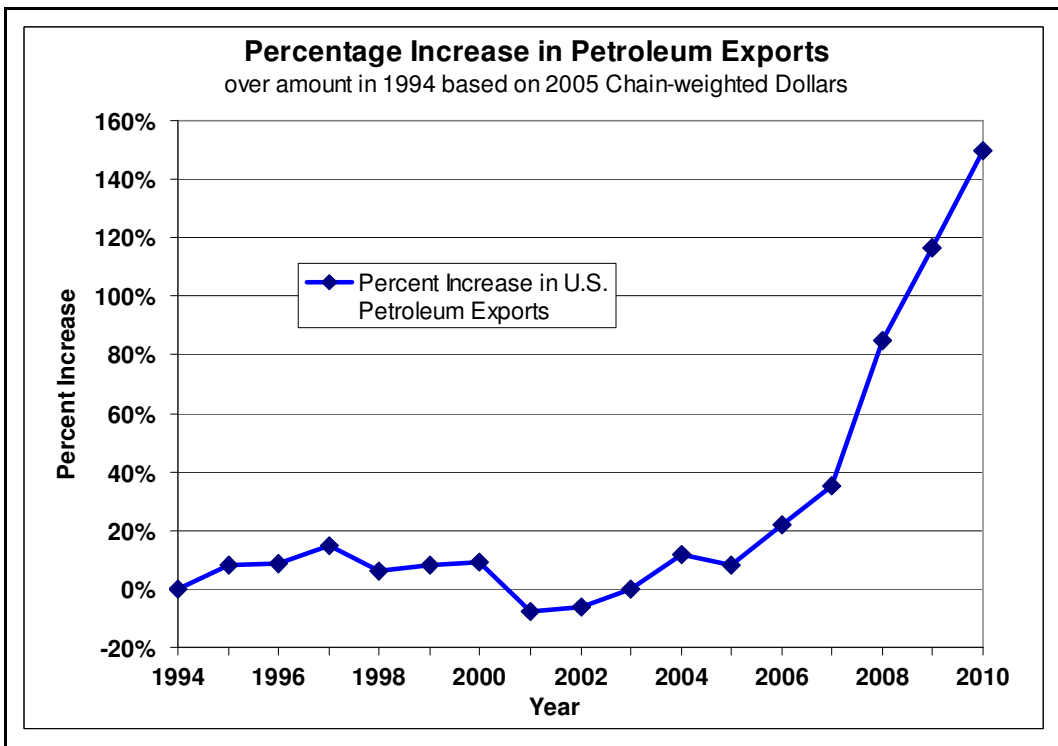


Figure 2. U.S. petroleum exports have increased by 150% over the levels in 1994 or 2003!

Though U.S. oil exports have increased to be 24% of oil imports, a 150% increase over exports in 2003, a "conservative" rebuttal is that this is not a problem. The rationale:

We export our Alaskan oil to Japan because it's closer than shipping that oil to San Diego. So oil corporations export Alaskan oil and then import oil from Canada and Mexico that is closer to our refineries and they then sell that at a lower price than that Alaskan oil would have been. The "conservative" view then is that we actually do win from this.

There are two problems with this: the basic assumptions are incorrect. The rationale is based on lies.

1. Oil corporations export to Japan because it's closer: But it's not closer!

Valdez, AK, for example, is a lot closer to San Diego (& even closer to Seattle) than to Japan!

[Distances from MapCrow <http://www.mapcrow.info/>]

Valdez, US to Tokyo, JA = 3570.63 mi

Valdez, US to San Diego, US = 2355.39 mi

Valdez, US to Seattle, US = 1329.13 mi

2. Oil corporations export more to somewhere closer to the oil they recover from Alaska so they can import more from somewhere nearer at lower cost: But, even if Japan were closer (it's not!), oil corporations are exporting MORE and importing LESS! From 2005 to 2010 exports INCREASED by \$29.7B, but imports DECREASED by \$36.6B over that same period. The charts below clearly show this.

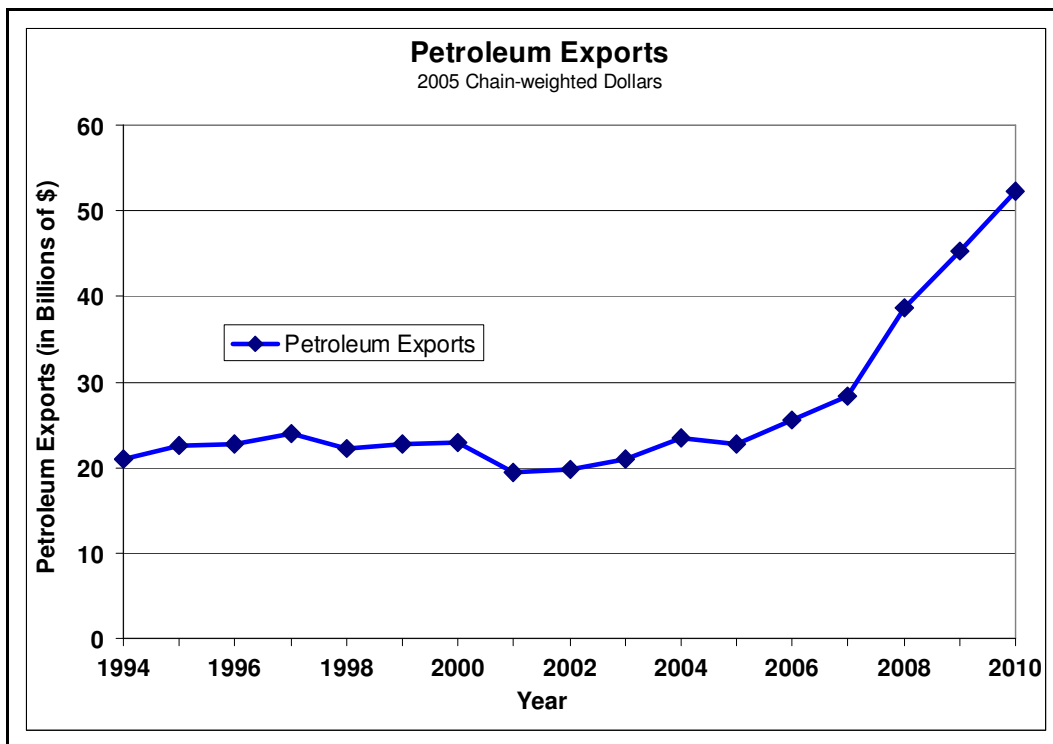


Figure 3. U.S. petroleum exports have increased by \$29.7B since 2005.

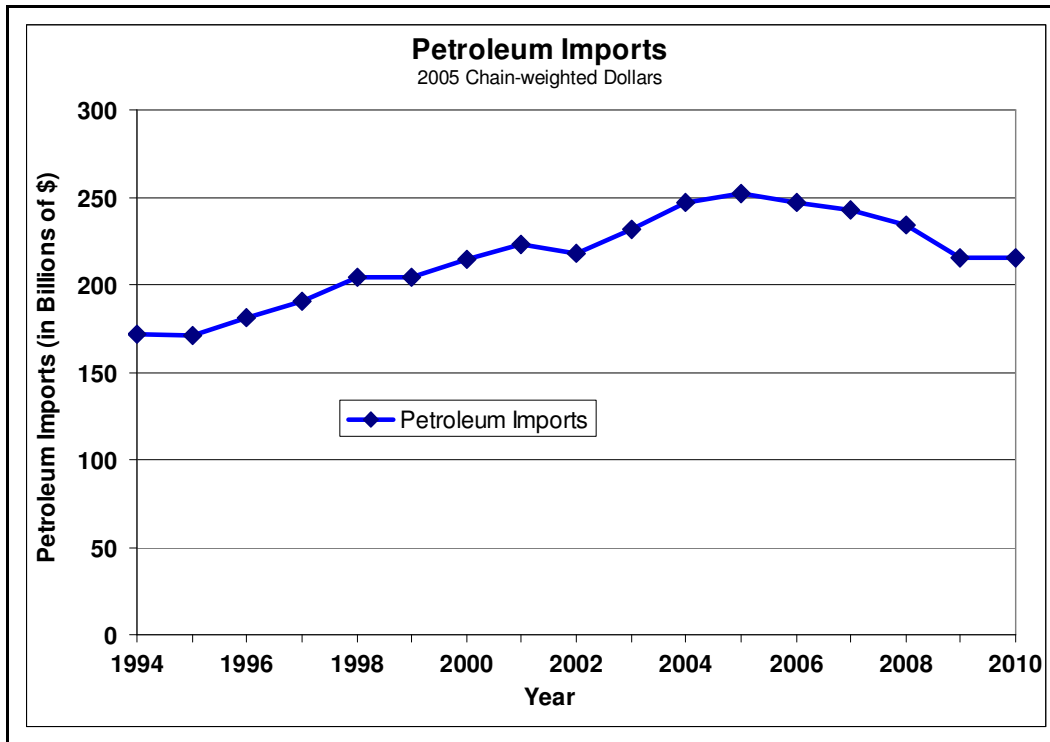


Figure 4. At the same time exports are soared, U.S. petroleum imports fell by \$36.6B since 2005.

So-called "conservatives" like you argue that there should be more drilling in the U.S. to access "our oil". But once oil corporations have leases to drill for oil, any oil they get is *oil corporation oil*, not *our oil* and they can sell it anywhere they like. And they do ... for greater profits, no matter that more U.S. oil could go to the U.S. to increase supply and reduce prices. It is not in their interest to reduce prices in the U.S. because that would reduce their profits.

This undermines the U.S. economy and is essentially a theft of U.S. public resources for private gain. I call it economic treason! And I call you a traitor!

Based on this behavior, there should be no offshore drilling and no increase in domestic production. In fact, it should be cut until oil corporations and Republicans are willing to stop exporting it. And until environmental standards are strengthened.

Beyond this, based on this treasonous behavior, I've come to the conclusion that the entire industry should be nationalized to stop this theft from the public. This is vital for economic and national security because oil corporations have demonstrated they have no allegiance at all to the United States of America.

Sincerely,
Bob Powell

Robert E. Powell, Ph.D., MBA
Continuous Improvement Associates
6992 Blackhawk Place
Colorado Springs, CO 80919
Ph. 719 599-0977
E-mail: scuba@usa.net
<http://www.exponentialimprovement.com/>