



# Energy and Jobs: Energy Policy and the US Economy

Michael Whatley  
Consumer Energy Alliance  
Ports to Plains Energy Summit  
April 9, 2010



# Energy = Jobs

## Energy Fuels the US Economy

- Energy Sector is a major jobs provider
- Every other sector of economy relies on affordable, reliable energy

# Energy = Jobs

## Energy Sector as Jobs Provider

- Oil and Gas Industry 9.2 million jobs
- Alberta Oil Sands 343,000 new jobs in US – 2011-15
- Electricity Generation 250,000 direct jobs
- Ethanol Industry supports 220,000 jobs



# Energy = Jobs

## The American Economy Relies on Affordable, Reliable Energy

- More than 3.7 million manufacturing jobs lost since 2007
  - High energy prices a major factor
- 4,200 trucking companies closed due to high diesel prices between 2Q 2007 and 4Q 2008
- 10 Airlines shut down due to high jet fuel prices in 2008 alone
  - Over 360,000 jobs lost



# Public Policy Affects Energy Jobs

**Changes in Federal Energy Policy have a direct impact on the Energy Sector's ability to support jobs**

- Access to US oil and gas reserves in US would create 161,000 new jobs in oil and gas industry
- Expanding US wind capacity 8-fold will create 150,000 manufacturing jobs
- Expanding ethanol production will support 1.18 million new jobs



# Public Policy Affects Energy Jobs

## Changes in Federal Energy Policy have a direct impact on the Energy Sector's ability to support jobs

- Maintaining OCS Moratorium will eliminate 3 million jobs in energy intensive industries
- Passage of Waxman-Markey climate change bill would result in net job loss of 2.5 million jobs
- Elimination of VTEC would eliminate 100,000 jobs
- Enacting LCFS would block imports from Alberta

# Public Policy Changes do not happen in a vacuum

**Federal policy makers make their decisions based on input from 3 main sources**

- Voters
- State and Local Elected Officials
- Stakeholders



# Public Policy Changes – A Case Study: The 110<sup>th</sup> Congress

- January 2007
  - Gasoline Prices - \$2.18 per gallon
  - Congressional Agenda – Climate Change
- October 2008
  - Gasoline Prices - \$4.00 per gallon
  - Congressional Agenda - Drop OCS Ban





# Public Policy Changes – A Role for Ports-to-Plains

- Federal Policy has a direct impact on the Communities in the Ports to Plain Corridor
- Federal Policy Makers set their agenda based on input of
  - Voters
  - State & Local Government Officials
  - Stakeholders



# For More Information

Michael Whatley  
Consumer Energy Alliance  
1666 K Street, NW, Suite 500  
Washington, DC  
202-674-1750  
[www.consumerenergyalliance.org](http://www.consumerenergyalliance.org)