Mr. President and members of the 111th Congress, you have the opportunity to change both America and the world’s energy futures by moving forward on each and every one of these principles. We must provide enlightened leadership. We must recognize that we live in an energy-dependent world, as well as a children and grandchildren. Our national security depends on the fact that our national goals, our inaction turns the occasion for the national good. Clearly, our future energy security warrants such action. We stand united in our views, offer our collective support, and urge you to lead in this clarion call to action.

Respectfully,

[Signatures of various individuals]

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Energy is essential across the spectrum of our priorities as a nation. With a challenge as great and urgent as securing our energy future, America’s leaders must come together in support of a sustainable and affordable approach that promotes economic growth at home and strengthens our national security. We stand united in our call to action.

— General James L. Jones, USMC (Ret.), President and CEO of the Institute for the 21st Century Energy

**Aggressively Promote Energy Efficiency**

Energy efficiency can be realized by increasing building efficiency and appliance standards, two areas of high energy savings potential. We must explore new business models to reward energy efficiency instead of rewarding the destruction of energy. We must expand the suite of voluntary programs, mandates, and incentives for financial benefits of energy efficiency.

**Reduce the Environmental Impact of Energy Consumption and Production**

We must address the impact of our growing energy consumption on the environment and climate. Climate change is not just an approach to demonstrate environmental responsibility and cost-effectiveness, but it is a national security concern. We must work with others to define a global understanding of climate change and its impact on economic growth and national security.

**Invest in Climate Science to Guide Energy, Economic, and Environmental Policy**

A deep understanding of the state of our climate is crucial to the future of our energy, economic, and environmental policy choices. Balancing those priorities requires greater coordination of the complex processes driving climate change and increased attention in adaptation and mitigation strategies. We must invest in scientific research, which will enable us to adapt policies to scientifically understanding advances. At the federal level, we must build federal and state agencies to coordinate and collaborate action agnains policy coherence and balance.

**Significantly Increase Funding for Research, Development, and Demonstration of Advanced Clean Energy Technologies**

Technology is the cornerstone of a new energy policy. The United States is currently spending 50 percent less on energy research and development than in the 1970's. We spend far too little to use carbon-free energy technologies. We must increase our investment in clean energy technologies to help us meet our energy needs in the future.

**Increase Renewable Sources of Electricity**

Any effort to meet growing demand and address environmental concerns with continued economic growth requires zero and low-carbon generation options. We must adopt a strategic national energy policy that supports the development and deployment of renewable energy technologies. We must address the environmental impact of renewable energy technologies and ensure their implementation.

**Transform Our Transportation Sector**

Transportation in the United States currently uses 65 percent of our oil and consumes 85 percent of our oil imports. We must invest in new technologies, such as electric vehicles, to reduce our reliance on foreign oil. We must develop and promote alternative transportation options, such as using electric vehicles, to reduce our reliance on foreign oil.

**Commit to and Expand Nuclear Energy Use**

Nuclear power is currently an essential source of new 20 percent of our country’s electricity. To use nuclear power, we must develop a new nuclear power supply chain. We must develop new nuclear power plants and increase the number of nuclear power plants in operation. We must also reduce our nuclear waste and develop new technologies to reduce nuclear waste.

**Moderize and Protect U.S. Energy Infrastructure**

Our energy infrastructure is increasingly inadequate for our growing demand and economy. Blackouts, brownouts, service disruptions, and failures are necessary for a more resilient energy market and the worldwide availability of much-needed clean technologies, especially to aid developing nations.

**Address Critical Shortages of Qualified Energy Professionals**

We must have a workforce that is capable of delivering the necessary energy workforce. We must develop a national strategy for energy workforce training and development. We must also develop a national strategy for energy workforce education and training.
Energy is essential across the spectrum of our priorities as a nation. With a challenge as great and urgent as securing our energy future, America’s leaders must rally in support of a sensible new approach that promotes economic growth at home and strengthens our national security. We stand united in this call to action.

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**Energy is economic as the spectrum of our priorities across a nation. With a challenge as great and urgent as securing our energy future, America’s leaders must rally in support of a sensible new approach that promotes economic growth at home and strengthens our national security. We stand united in this call to action.**

**Aggressively Promote Energy Efficiency**

We must address the impact of our growing energy consumption on the environment and climate, while ensuring a cost-effective and energy-dense approach that is clean, efficient, and environmentally and economically viable.

**Reduce the Environmental Impact of Energy**

We must address the impact of our growing energy consumption on the environment and climate, while ensuring a cost-effective and energy-dense approach that is clean, efficient, and environmentally and economically viable.

**Invest in Climate Science to Guide Energy, Economic, and Environmental Policy**

A deeper understanding of the issues and developing science associated with the environment and climate will support national and global energy and environmental policy choices. Balancing these priorities requires greater consideration of the complex processes driving climate change and increased attention to adaptation and mitigation strategies. We must invest in research and development science, which will enable us to adopt policies scientifically understanding the climate.

**Commit to and Expand Nuclear Energy Use**

Nuclear power is currently our nation’s most secure source of 20 percent of our electricity. It also emits no carbon dioxide and nearly zero other greenhouse gases and represents a key component of America’s carbon-free clean energy future. Expansion of nuclear power produces long-term energy security benefits, supports America’s economy, and offers a clean, reliable, and affordable source of energy.

**Commit to the Use of Clean Coal**

Clean coal technologies can provide many benefits to the environment, including the achievement of global climate stabilization targets and reduced power plant emissions. We must focus on a broad spectrum of clean coal technologies.

**Significantly Increase Funding for Research, Development, and Demonstration of Advanced Clean Energy Technologies**

Technology is the cornerstone of a new energy policy. The United States is currently spending 50 percent less on energy research and development than during the 1970s.

**Increase Renewable Sources of Energy**

Expanding renewable energy technologies will help meet our nation’s growing energy needs, secure our energy infrastructure, and reduce our reliance on imported energy. Energy policies that provide a reliable and predictable investment climate and incentives for innovation in clean energy will attract private sector investments.

**Demonstrate Global Leadership on Energy Security and Climate Change**

America’s leadership in shaping the global energy and climate change outcomes will depend on the actions we take now. We must provide strong leadership, invest strategically to achieve energy and environmental objectives.

**Reduce the Environmental Impact of Energy**

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Mr. President and members of the 111th Congress, you have the opportunity to change both America and the world’s energy futures by moving forward on each and every one of these principles. We must provide enlightened leadership. We must recognize that no live in an energy isolated world, as all our children and grandchildren. Our annual energy needs in fact consumes more than one-fourth of our national wealth. Clearly, our future energy security commands such attention. We stand united in our views, offer our collective support, and urge you to lead in this clarion call to action.

Respectfully,

Spencer Abraham
Former Secretary of Energy and U.S. Senator (R-MI)

Dr. David M. Abshire
Former Ambassador to NATO and President and CEO, Center for the Study of the Presidency

George F. Allen
Former U.S. Senator (R-VA) and Governor of Virginia

Richard L. Armitage
Former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Former U.S. Senator (R-TN), White House Chief of Staff, and U.S. Ambassador to Japan

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Former National Security Advisor

Thomas F. “Mack” McLarty, III
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Former U.S. Secretary of State, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and National Security Advisor

Dr. James R. Schlesinger
Former U.S. Secretary of Energy, U.S. Secretary of Defense, and Director of the Central Intelligence Agency

Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, USAF (Ret.)
Former National Security Advisor

Dr. George P. Shultz
Former U.S. Secretary of State, Secretary of the Treasury, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and Secretary of Labor

Admiral James D. Watkins, USN (Ret.)
Former U.S. Secretary of Energy and Chief of Naval Operations

R. James Woolsey
Former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. President and members of the 111th Congress, you have the opportunity to change both America and the world’s energy futures by moving forward on each and every one of these principles. We must provide enlightened leadership. We must recognize that we live in a strategically interdependent world, as well as our children and grandchildren. The national security threat from the rise of great national rivals, our halting response to the scourge for the natural fuels. Clearly, our future energy security commands such attention. We stand united in our views, offer our collective support, and urge you to lead in this clarion call to action.

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Donald L. Evans
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AN AFFILIATE OF THE
U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE