

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. SJ0003

Federal suspension and orders on oil and gas production.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Cooper and Driskill and
Representative(s) Bear

A JOINT RESOLUTION

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION requesting Congress and the federal
2 government to reverse federal orders and actions that inhibit
3 the safe development of oil and gas in Wyoming and that
4 negatively and disproportionately impact Wyoming citizens and
5 industries.

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7 WHEREAS, the state of Wyoming contains abundant and vast
8 natural resources that are and can be used for the production
9 of energy throughout the United States and world; and

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11 WHEREAS, Wyoming produces energy that benefits consumers and
12 industries throughout the United States; and

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1 WHEREAS, the energy industry in Wyoming provides millions of
2 dollars in taxes and other revenues annually to the state of
3 Wyoming; and

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5 WHEREAS, the state of Wyoming and the energy industry have
6 worked together for years to develop Wyoming's energy
7 resources in a safe and environmentally responsible manner,
8 including the development of technologies to promote the
9 responsible development and use of Wyoming energy; and

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11 WHEREAS, the federal government owns almost one-half (1/2) of
12 the surface acreage within the state of Wyoming and more than
13 forty-two million (42,000,000) acres of mineral estate in
14 Wyoming; and

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16 WHEREAS, federal decisions and actions banning, pausing or
17 significantly reducing the production of energy negatively
18 impact the economy of Wyoming and the livelihoods and well-
19 being of Wyoming's residents; and

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21 WHEREAS, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. signed Executive
22 Order No. 13,990 on January 20, 2021, which requires the

1 federal Secretary of the Interior to unilaterally stop all
2 federal leasing of oil and gas resources in Wyoming; and

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4 WHEREAS, President Biden signed Executive Order No. 14,008 on
5 January 27, 2021, which indefinitely pauses oil and natural
6 gas leasing and calls for a comprehensive review of federal
7 oil and gas permitting and leasing practices to evaluate
8 potential climate impacts; and

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10 WHEREAS, the President and various federal agencies have,
11 since January 20, 2021, taken actions and issued orders to
12 limit actions, permits and leases for oil and gas production,
13 including a Department of the Interior order that revoked
14 authority for issuing fossil-fuel authorizations, leases,
15 permits to drill and the affirmative extension of leases and
16 contracts; and

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18 WHEREAS, these executive actions will lead companies to
19 pursue energy development in other parts of the world where
20 energy resources are not as environmentally responsible and
21 where responsible energy regulations are lacking to where a
22 net negative impact on climate emissions may likely result;
23 and

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2 WHEREAS, these executive actions may result in negative
3 impacts to Wyoming's diverse wildlife and habitat, including
4 a decreased ability to mitigate wildlife impacts, increased
5 development on currently undisturbed lands and a decrease in
6 quality habitat reclamation work; and

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8 WHEREAS, these executive actions are causing immediate,
9 disproportionate and extensive harm to the state of Wyoming
10 and will inflict lasting damage on Wyoming residents,
11 industries and the critical services upon which Wyoming
12 residents depend.

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14 *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE*
15 *LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:*

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17 **Section 1.** That the President of the United States
18 rescind, reverse or repeal the executive orders that were
19 issued in January 2021 that suspend or pause leasing,
20 permitting, extensions and authorizations of oil and gas
21 development in Wyoming and that will have an adverse impact
22 on climate change and Wyoming's wildlife and habitat

1 resources while inflicting irreparable and disproportionate
2 harm on the state of Wyoming.

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4 **Section 2.** That the President of the United States
5 direct all federal agencies to rescind, reverse or repeal any
6 secretarial orders or actions that negatively impact
7 responsible energy and energy technology development in
8 Wyoming, including Department of the Interior Secretarial
9 Order No. 3395.

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11 **Section 3.** That the Wyoming Legislature strongly
12 opposes actions by or that direct federal agencies, including
13 the federal Environmental Protection Agency, to unilaterally
14 increase the burden on existing oil and gas companies in
15 Wyoming and to increase the burden on those companies'
16 facilities in Wyoming in an attempt to achieve climate-
17 related goals that are unrealistic and that
18 disproportionately impact the people of Wyoming.

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20 **Section 4.** That the Wyoming Legislature strongly
21 supports the efforts of the Wyoming congressional delegation
22 to prevent the President and the federal executive branch
23 from unilaterally issuing suspensions and moratoriums on

1 energy development in Wyoming, including the Protecting Our
2 Wealth of Energy Resources (POWER) Act of 2021 and the
3 Safeguarding Oil and Gas Leasing and Permitting Act.

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5 **Section 5.** That the Wyoming Legislature strongly
6 encourages further congressional action to protect
7 responsible leasing and permitting of oil and gas in Wyoming
8 and to protect Wyoming's residents, energy industry and other
9 industries that are negatively impacted by these executive
10 actions.

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12 **Section 6.** That the Secretary of State of Wyoming
13 transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the
14 United States, to the Acting Secretary of the Department of
15 the Interior, to the Acting Administrator of the federal
16 Environmental Protection Agency, to the President of the
17 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the
18 United States Congress and to the Wyoming Congressional
19 Delegation.

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(END)