## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 3, 2022

President Joe Biden The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500

## Dear President Biden,

The world is in peril and we would like to work in a bipartisan manner to meet the challenges of our time. In the area of energy independence, we have lost ground. Opening up American oil and gas deposits, and in particular approving the Keystone XL Pipeline, would benefit our allies suffering under Russian tyranny and American consumers facing steadily increasing prices at the pump.

In the last decade, domestic oil production has doubled, putting the United States in a preferred energy position by making us less dependent on foreign sources of oil. However, our position has recently deteriorated due to several actions you took:

On January 20, 2021, you signed an Executive Order (E.O.) revoking the 2019 permit for the Keystone XL Pipeline. The E.O. stated the Keystone XL Pipeline would not serve U.S. national interests and the significance of the proposed pipeline for our energy security and economy is limited. As a result of this action, American energy independence has been curtailed and the U.S. market is deprived of 830,000 barrels of oil per day flowing from a stable North American ally.

On January 27, 2021, you issued another E.O. directing the Secretary of the Interior to pause new oil and natural gas leases on public lands and offshore waters. This leasing pause coupled with other factors has resulted in the United States purchasing on average 670,000 barrels of Russian oil per day to meet our domestic needs.

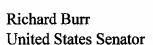
Through smart energy production, we can fulfill our energy needs while simultaneously exporting oil and gas to our allies. Low carbon technologies are worth investing in; however, the reality of the moment is that America is increasingly reliant on imports of foreign oil. The spike in oil price is a result of Russia's incursion into Ukraine, which benefits the Putin regime and hurts American consumers.

We urge you to lead the world in sanctioning Russia's oil and gas sector, which makes up almost 40% of their revenue. We must reverse course and hit Russia's energy sector for Putin's outrage against Ukraine and other atrocities. Further, we encourage you to reconsider the Keystone Pipeline and work with energy producers to responsibly increase oil and gas production at home. These actions will lessen the impact of increasing energy costs on American consumers and strike a blow against Putin.

Sincerely,

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Lindsey O. Graham United States Senator



Dan Sullivan United States Senator

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Tim Scott United States Senator

James M. Inhofe United States Senator

Sman M. Collins

Susan Collins United States Senator Thom Tillis
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**United States Senator** 

John Hoeven

United States Senator

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Roger F. Wicker United States Senator

Todd Young United States Senator

John Boozman United States Senator Rob Portman United States Senator