



**IPAMS**  
**Independent**  
**Petroleum**  
**Association**  
**of**  
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July 30, 2007

The Honorable John T. Salazar  
1531 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Salazar,

As the House prepares to take up energy legislation, we are writing to reiterate our strongest opposition to Titles I and II of the Rahall bill, H.R. 2337.

We appreciate your effort to try to improve the existing Rahall provisions. However, these provisions remain critically flawed, despite everyone's best efforts to improve them. With that in mind, we remain very much opposed and would appreciate your conveying this position to those Members with whom you have worked on this bill.

For a bill intended to decrease our nation's dependency on foreign oil and gas, it is ironic that H.R. 2337 specifically targets domestic producers of energy. The direction taken by the House leadership on this bill will embolden those groups who exist solely to litigate and obstruct. It will dramatically increase regulatory burdens on industry and will ultimately delay production of energy at a time when our economy needs to increase supplies. The end result will be restricted access to Colorado's natural gas, and much higher energy costs to consumers, agriculture and manufacturing sectors in our state.

The oil and gas industry contributes \$22 billion to Colorado's economy each year, one of the single largest sectors in the state's economy. Thousands of jobs in dozens of communities across Colorado are counting on you to make good decisions. We implore you to keep this in mind as you prepare to vote this week.

Sincerely,

Marc W. Smith  
Executive Director

Cc:  
Congressman Matheson  
Congressman Melancon  
Congressman Green  
Congressman Edwards  
Congressman Lampson  
Congressman Boren