

I want everybody to understand that both Senators are working very hard at this.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to members of staff who will be listed hereinafter. They are members of the committee who will have to spend time, from time to time, on the floor. And I ask unanimous consent that their names be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The list of names is as follows:

Karen Billups, Colin Hayes, Lisa Epifani, Kelly Donnelly, John Peschke, Frank Macchiarola, Frank Gladics, Dick Bouts, Carole McGuire, Marnie Funk, Kathryn Clay, Josh Johnson, Clint Williamson, and Amy Millet.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a list of fellows and interns of the Democratic staff of the Finance Committee be allowed on the Senate floor for the duration of the debate on the Energy Bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The list is as follows:

Brian Townsend, Cuong Huynh, Richard Litsey, Jorlie Cruz, Mary Baker, Stuart Sirkin, Andrea Porter, Ashley Sparano, Drew Blewett, Jake Kuipers, Rob Grayson, Katherine Bitz, Danny Shervin, Paul Turner, Heather O'Loughlin, Julie Golden, Julie Straus, and Adam Elkington.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I yield to the distinguished Senator, Mr. DORGAN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, my understanding is the Senate is about to go out for the caucus on our side. It is customarily held on Tuesdays. My thought is, perhaps when we come back—I believe at 2:15, by previous consent; is that correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. DORGAN. I am wondering if it might be appropriate for me to be recognized at 2:15 for 15 minutes. Then, at that point, Senator DOMENICI and Senator BINGAMAN will proceed with whatever agreement they are going to have.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DOMENICI. There is no objection, as long as it is understood I have the floor when we return.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The unanimous consent request would be that Senator DORGAN—

Mr. DOMENICI. The Senator from New Mexico would have the floor.

Mr. DORGAN. At 2:30.

Mr. DOMENICI. Yes.

Mr. DORGAN. I would start at 2:15. That is my request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I heard the statement by my colleague from Florida. He is aggressive and persua-

sive. I must say, in the committee we have already had some of these discussions by some who would want to open the Outer Continental Shelf and have more drilling and have a State election and so on. We already had some of that discussion, and I do not know whether anybody can agree in advance to prohibit amendments. You cannot agree to that, certainly, or agree to oppose amendments you do not know exist.

But I would say to the Senator from Florida, I do not think there is a ghost of a chance of us finishing this energy bill and having it carry some new mandate for Outer Continental Shelf production. That is just not going to happen, in my judgment. I think the reason it is not going to happen, at least in part, is for the reasons my colleague from Florida has described with his charts of what it would do to Florida. And it also relates to some concerns in other areas as well dealing with the Outer Continental Shelf and areas that have been set aside.

I just want to say, I understand the presentation. I did not mean to be here to interrupt it. I would like to make a general statement at 2:15 about the bill which, incidentally, I think is an excellent bill. It is the best energy bill we have brought to the Senate for several decades, in my judgment. I am going to support a couple of additions to it here and there. We have not done the energy independence approach, what is called the renewable portfolio standard. We will do that and some other things.

I am proud of this bill. This is a bipartisan effort, which is unusual in the Senate. I hope this starts a new habit. This legislation moves this country in the right direction in a significant way. Acknowledging the concern of my colleague from Florida, when the dust settles, I think he will understand that the battle he wages is one he will win because I don't believe the Senate is going to add the concerns he expresses about Outer Continental Shelf production.

I am pleased to come back at 2:15 and make a more general statement. I thank my colleagues from Florida and New Mexico.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 12:30 p.m. having arrived, the Senate will stand in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, at 12:30 p.m., the Senate recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. VOINOVICH).

ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005—
Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota is recognized.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, it is my understanding that I will be recognized for the first 15 minutes and at 2:30, I believe, Senator DOMENICI will be recognized; is that correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct, yes.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I want to make a brief opening comment about the Energy bill on the floor of the Senate.

First, I think the product of the Energy Committee is a bill that advances this country's interests. I think the work done by Senator DOMENICI and Senator BINGAMAN is quite extraordinary. At a time when there is so much partisanship and division and so much difficulty in getting together, this bill was the product of two Senators—coincidentally, from the same State—who decided to write a bipartisan bill. So the result was a vote in the committee of 21 to 1 for this Energy bill.

I think the bill is progressive and strong and advances our country's interests. First, I wanted to say thanks to both of them. I think what we have is a good bill. I am going to vote for some amendments that I think will strengthen it. Such as one we did not include in committee that would move us toward energy independence by requiring 10 percent of the electricity to be produced from renewable sources of energy. We call that a renewable portfolio standard. That needs to be in the bill. I will vote for an amendment to deal with that. There are other issues as well that would advance us toward greater energy independence that I will support.

The question for us is how do we remove for America the addiction to foreign sources of oil? If I were to have a barrel of oil on the floor of the Senate—and we use over 20 million of them every single day—and that barrel of oil were transparent, you would find out the first 40 percent of that barrel was oil we produced in this country, and the next 60 percent is oil we get elsewhere. From where does it come? It comes from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Venezuela—very troubled parts of the world. We are hopelessly and dangerously addicted to oil from troubled parts of the world. God forbid, tomorrow morning a terrorist would interrupt the supply of oil coming into this country. Our economy—the American economy—would be in deep trouble.

I remember listening and watching the Indianapolis 500 this year, as I have done ever since I was a young boy. This year was different because a woman was a race car driver, Danica Patrick, who drove her race car 220 miles an hour. I believe it was seven or eight or nine laps from the end of the race, and guess who was winning. The only woman who was racing in the Indianapolis 500; this young 23-year-old woman was leading the race. But they worried she was going to run out of fuel because she had not had a pit stop, and they worried she would not make it to the end. So she had to back off a little, worried about running out of gas. I think she took fourth place in the Indianapolis 500, and she captured the hearts of the country. We are going to hear a lot about her.