



March 8, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

While we appreciate your action today to ban Russian energy imports, we are concerned by reports that your administration is considering replacing Russian imports with oil from foreign countries, which would be counterproductive and discouraging to our domestic energy workforce. Our nation's energy and national security policies are inseparable, and now more than ever it is apparent that domestic energy production is vital to our security and that of our friends and allies. Yet, our domestic energy production remains constrained by federal regulatory roadblocks, denial of critical infrastructure permits and canceled lease auctions on federal lands.

Yesterday, Congressman Kelly Armstrong invited you to visit the Bakken region of North Dakota to see firsthand the work of clean, efficient, domestic oil production. We would like to echo his invitation to highlight the role North Dakota could play in meeting national security and clean energy goals. During a recent visit to North Dakota, Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm said that North Dakota's energy and enormous carbon storage capability was "a gift to the nation." We wholeheartedly agree and would appreciate the opportunity to share how carbon storage can play an immediate and significant role in lowering CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

North Dakotans cherish our natural resources, which have been characterized as our "geologic jackpot." With more than 7 billion barrels of recoverable oil and over 38 trillion cubic feet of natural gas reserves, we can expand our major role in our nation's energy security. Our "geologic jackpot" also includes the ability to permanently sequester over 252 billion tons of carbon dioxide, enough to store over 50 years' worth of our entire nation's annual CO<sub>2</sub> production. We are cracking the code on clean, reliable energy production in North Dakota.

Now is not the time to rely on authoritarian, adversarial governments for U.S. energy supply. Not only does this undermine our national security goals, it also contradicts this administration's clean energy goals and "buy American" directives. No one produces energy cleaner than we do. We would appreciate the opportunity to bring together our energy producers and show you firsthand how North Dakota stands ready to increase our energy independence and ensure our national security.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Burgum".

Doug Burgum  
Governor