

Pressure Mounts to Reverse Course on President Biden's Federal Lands and Waters Energy Production Ban

Late Tuesday, news broke of a federal judge in Louisiana issuing a temporary injunction to halt the Biden administration's suspension of new oil and gas leases on federal lands and waters. The news came as a Chamber-led coalition of 125 state and local Chambers from 30 states sent a [letter](#) to the President asking him to reverse course on the ban.

The backstory: On January 27th, President Biden signed an Executive Order halting new leases on federal lands and waters. The order also promised a review of existing leasing and permitting practices, which raises the potential for disruption on those as well.

Given the long lead time necessary to begin actual production on wells, the administration's action means that oil and natural gas production will be disrupted for years to come, and the longer the ban remains in place, the larger the impacts will be to the entire nation.

A force multiplier: The Chamber's Global Energy Institute has been building a coalition to amplify concerns around the ban. State and local chambers from every state hosting federal lands and waters energy production were represented in the [letter](#), noting that the ban won't help the President meet his climate goals—but rather would be “counterproductive by artificially limiting supply, forcing our nation to use more oil and gas produced overseas in nations that have less stringent environmental restrictions.”

Our take: “State and local chambers from around the nation representing businesses from Main Street to the assembly line are asking the President to reverse course, and we hope he hears this message loud and clear,” said Marty Durbin, President of the U.S. Chamber's Global Energy Institute.

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