

EXEC REPORT

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Senate Plans Another Attempt To Pass Cap-And-Trade Bill

Senate Majority Leader **Harry Reid** (D-NV) has announced that the Senate will be asked during the week of July 26 to pass an energy bill that includes a cap-and-trade provision which theoretically will reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Information about the topics covered in the legislation is difficult to come by because the Democrats are not sure how they can get enough votes to pass a bill. However, President Obama has pushed for a vote before the August recess. A dozen Democratic Senators have raised concern about raising energy costs when the economy is still in a recession. The Democratic Senators are: **Mary Landrieu** (LA), **Blanche Lincoln** (Ark), **Mark Pryor** (Ark), **Mark Begich** (Alaska), **Byron Dorgan** (ND), **Kent Conrad** (ND), **Tim Johnson** (SD), **Ben Nelson** (Neb), **Jeff Bingaman** (NM), **Evan Bayh** (Ind), **Michael Bennet** (CO) and **Jay Rockefeller** (WV).

House Committee Passes Bill That Restricts Drilling On Federal Lands

The U.S. House of Representatives' Natural Resources Committee approved the Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources (CLEAR) Act by a 27-21 vote which will add layers of burdensome red-tape to oil and natural gas production on federal lands. The legislation will make offshore and onshore leasing more expensive, increase uncertainty, implement a Washington down approach to federal land management and create new layers of bureaucracy. This will also make it more difficult for independent producers to obtain leases. The bill implements a \$2 per barrel fee on American oil and a 20 cents per million Btu of natural gas from production on existing leases, and creates federal disclosure requirements of certain hydraulic fracturing information for public land operations.

State Senator Troy Fraser Named Chairman of Natural Resources Committee

In preparation for the next legislative session, Lt. Governor **David Dewhurst** announced on July 15 the appointment of eight new committee chairs, including Senator **Troy Fraser** as Chairman of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, which gets most of the bills dealing with oil and gas. Fraser is a Republican and represents the 24th Senatorial District that stretches from Abilene to Marble Falls. The highly coveted Natural Resources Committee chairmanship became vacant due to the resignation of Senator **Kip Averitt** (R-Waco). Senator **Craig Estes** (R-Wichita Falls) was appointed Vice-Chair. Other new committee chairmen are: Administration - Sen. **Kevin Eltife** (R-Tyler); Business & Commerce - Sen. **John Carona** (R-Dallas); Economic Development - Sen. **Mike Jackson** (R-La Porte); Jurisprudence - Sen. **Chris Harris** (R-Arlington); Nominations - Sen. **Bob Deuell** (R-Greenville); Transportation & Homeland Security - Sen. **Tommy Williams** (R-The Woodlands); Select Committee on Veterans Health - Sen. **Jeff Wentworth** (R-San Antonio).

Alliance Hosts "Emerging Technology Conference" On Campus Of Rice University

The Alliance, the Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship, and The National Corrosion Center will host a distinguished list of speakers at "The Emerging Energy Technologies Conference" on July 27-28 on the campus of Rice University. The conference brings together the brightest minds and the latest ideas in the areas of seismic, hydraulic fracturing, completions, enhanced recovery, corrosion and a CEO roundtable discussion. Speakers include: Texas Governor **Rick Perry**, Swift Energy President **Bruce Vincent**, Southwestern Energy Company CEO **Steve Mueller**, Denbury Resources CEO **Phil Rykhoek**, National Oilwell Varco CEO **Pete Miller** and Baker Hughes CEO **Chad Deaton**. To register, go to www.texasalliance.org. The brochure and registration form are on the home page. (Registration deadline: July 22)

If you do not want to receive any faxes from the Texas Alliance, please call (800) 299-2998, or fax (940) 723-4132, or send an e-mail to texasalliance@texasalliance.org. Please include your name, company, fax number and phone number for verification purposes.