

Energy Legislative Monitor

Congressman Jim Nussle

Manchester, Iowa

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Jim Nussle's Agenda for Iowa...

*Protect our
Nation with
Homeland Security*

*Strengthen the
Family Farm*

*Fair Taxation &
Responsible Budgets*

*Long-term
Energy Strategies*

*Retirement Security
for All Iowans*

*Strengthen Medicare
& Ensure Health
Care Access*

*Student-centered
Education with
Local Control*

*Keep Promises
Made to Our
Nation's Veterans*

*Grow Our Economy
to Create Jobs*

Nussle Agenda for Long-term Energy Strategies

Promoting Iowa's Resources

"As a matter of national security and economic security, America must develop a strategy that ensures a dependable, reasonably priced, domestic supply of energy now and forever. The United States is far too dependent on both foreign sources of energy and on non-renewable sources of energy. Iowa can lead the way in showing the country how renewable sources of energy such as ethanol, soy-diesel and wind can be part of the long-term solution. Government policies and legislative initiatives, including the tax structure, should actively encourage their development."

Jim Nussle

Jim is working to achieve a positive legislative agenda for Iowa's energy resources. Jim has worked on energy priorities since coming to Congress and will continue to work on these in the 108th Congress.

After countless meetings with Iowans, as well as through letters, e-mails and phone calls, Jim has created the following goals.

Goals for Long-term Energy Strategies:

1. Strengthen America's Energy Security
2. Emphasize Renewable Sources and Diversify Energy Sources
3. Modernize our Energy Infrastructure
4. Significantly Decrease Dependence on Foreign Oil Through Expansion of Domestic Production and Capacity
5. Improve and Accelerate Environmental Protection
6. Research and Plan for Energy Needs of the Future
7. Promote and Increase Conservation

To achieve the goals to ensure a long-term energy strategy promoting renewable sources and conservation, Jim has sponsored and co-sponsored many pieces of legislation, and as the House Budget Committee Chairman, Jim has written many energy items into his budget. You will find a listing of these items on the following pages.

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Nussle's Energy Agenda Legislation:

Energy Independence Act (H.R. 4652)

- Creates a Renewable Fuels Standard, mandating the use of renewable fuels.
- Immediately bans the use of Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE).
- Requires Federal agency fleet vehicles to use ethanol and biodiesel whenever feasible.
- Permanently extends and expands tax credits for electricity derived from wind, ethanol, biodiesel and manure.
- Tax credit for small ethanol producers, energy efficient appliances, and for construction of new energy efficient homes/energy efficiency improvements for existing homes.
- Repeals the excise tax on railroads and barges.
- Raises cap for tax-free Private Activity Bonds to \$20 million, expanding qualifications to facilities that produce alternative fuels.
- Permanently extend the \$2000 alternative fuel vehicle tax deduction.
- Off-road engine manufacturers' tax credit to assist research and development for developing engines that comply with the Clean Air Act rules.
- *Introduced by Rep. Nussle.*

Energy Security Act (H.R. 6)

- Bolsters our national security by reducing our dependence on foreign oil.
- Encourages domestic energy production.
- Extends and expands tax incentives for energy produced from open and closed loop biomass and wind.
- Repeals 4.3 cents per gallon excise tax on barge and railroad diesel fuel.
- Provides for energy efficient homes.
- **Sets a Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) to increase the demand for ethanol and biodiesel by 5 billion gallons by 2015, simplifies and extends ethanol tax incentive, and creates a tax incentive for biodiesel.**
- *Final conference report was approved by the House on November 18, 2003. Expected to be reconsidered by the Senate in 2004.*

Highway Reauthorization Tax Act (H.R. 3971)

- Simplifies and extends the ethanol tax credit through 2010.
- Properly credits the highway trust fund with ethanol tax receipts.
- *Approved by the House Committee on Ways and Means on March 18, 2004. Expected to be approved by the House of Representatives soon.*

FY 2004 Energy and Water Appropriations (H.R. 2574)

- Provides \$22 billion for the Department of Energy.
- Includes \$349 million for renewable energy programs.
- *Final conference report was approved by Congress on November 18, 2003. Signed into law by the President on December 1, 2003.*

Resource Efficient Appliance Incentives Act (H.R. 1332)

- Creates an incentive for appliance manufacturers to develop energy-efficient household appliances.
- *Sponsored by Rep. Nussle. Included in comprehensive energy legislation (H.R. 6) approved by the House on November 18, 2003. Expected to be reconsidered by the Senate in 2004.*

Renewable Fuels and Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Act (H.R. 3119)

- Simplifies and extends ethanol tax incentive.
- Creates tax incentive for biodiesel.
- *Co-sponsored by Rep. Nussle.*

Renewable Energy from Agricultural Products (REAP) Act

- Promotes value-added agriculture by creating incentives to produce energy from products such as methane from manure, and other ag-related biomass.
- *Sponsored by Rep. Nussle in the 107th Congress. Portions of the REAP Act regarding the creation of incentives for producing biomass energy from grain, crop residues, and wood were included in the Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act (H.R. 3090). Approved by Congress on March 8, 2002. Signed into law by the President on March 9, 2002.*

Wind Energy Production Tax Credit

- Promotes wind energy as a clean and efficient energy source by extending the current wind energy tax credit for an additional five years.
- *Co-sponsored by Rep. Nussle in the 107th Congress. Included as part of the Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act (H.R. 3090). Approved by Congress on March 8, 2002. Signed into law by the President on March 9, 2002.*

Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002

- Provides funding for the CCC Bioenergy Program.
- Establishes a Biobased Product Purchasing Preference program to test biobased products.
- Reauthorizes and funds the Biomass Research and Development Act through 2007.
- Establishes loans and grant programs for Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements.
- *The Farm Security & Rural Investment Act of 2002 was approved by the House on May 2, 2002, the Senate on May 8, 2002, and was signed into law by the President on May 13, 2002.*

Rural Electric Cooperatives (REC's)

- *Rep. Nussle authored a letter to the energy conferees expressing concern about potential impact of over-regulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on rural electric cooperatives.*

Tradable Tax Credits

- *Rep. Nussle authored a letter to the energy conferees expressing his support for tradable tax credits which allow tax exempt utilities to benefit from renewable energy incentives. These tax incentives are supported by the rural electric cooperatives and the municipal utilities.*