



Americans fight back as TSA blinks

By Tom DeWeese

Just days before the busiest travel weekend of the year (Thanksgiving holiday) the Department of Homeland Security's Transportation Security Administration (TSA) decided to flex its muscle and not only enforce the use of the very unpopular whole body imaging x-ray machines (called by many, the naked machines), but for those who refused to use them, the TSA generously offered a "choice" of a vigorous manual groping. Worse or "even worse" is not a choice. Americans finally got upset and said so.

A nationwide protest began to take shape called "Opt Out," encouraging travelers to make their feelings known by refusing to enter the full-body scanners, demanding the more time-consuming pat downs. The point was to send a very strong message to an arrogant government agency by clogging airport security areas, forcing the TSA to back off the use of the scanners. Also, the more people forced to endure the invasive pat downs, the greater possibility TSA would back off of those as well.

Why the outrage? Travel has become a very difficult experience for Americans. We understand the need to be cautious because there are those who seek to do us harm in this age of terrorism. But for 10 years now, the government has specifically focused on airline travelers to take the brunt of ever more difficult and invasive security procedures. Any minor or imagined attempt by terrorists to break through the security system results in a massive government response – not to find and stop the terrorists, but rather to force the law-abiding traveling American public to toe an ever tougher line.

Americans have been forced to endure humiliation from scowling TSA agents who seem to not even consider American laws or rights. In fact, just mention your rights and receive the full treatment the agents can muster. Total disregard for the modesty of the elderly, the religious and the sick forced to endure revealing pat downs in full view of other travelers or TSA agents; mothers have been forced to drink their breast milk; cancer survivors forced to remove and hand over their prosthetics; valuable bottles of lotions, perfumes and shampoos tossed in the dumpster; shoes off, jackets off, pockets empty, and much more. Toe the line, show no emotion, smile, just hope to get through without incident. It's become a way of life – in the name of fighting terrorism.

What the government hasn't done, in deed refuses to do, is take the necessary action to secure the nation's borders to stop illegals, including potential or known terrorists from entering the country. Nor has the government stepped up enforcement of visas, allowing those with expired visas to stay in the country well past their expiration date with no repercussions. The no-fly lists, rather than specifically focusing on the names of known terrorists or, heaven forbid, screening those who come from nations friendly to terrorists, instead is stocked full of good, law abiding Americans who become hassled every time they attempt to travel. Wouldn't it be more useful to make every effort to clear those wrongfully put on the list, so that focus would be sharper

on real terrorists?

Above all, the government has allowed itself to become mired in another Viet Nam in Afghanistan, full of politically-correct policies so as to not upset the friends of terrorists in the region's corrupt governments. As U.S. Soldiers continue to die and Americans are treated as prisoners in their own country, the terrorist's Mr. Big, Osama Bin Laden goes on, unharmed, free to move about in the region, directing his attacks.

Meanwhile, back in the states, the TSA has engaged in an assault on Americans and their Constitutional rights unprecedented in American history. Essentially, the TSA writes its own laws, in secret, in the form of "Security Directives" to airlines, as they issue "Standard Operating Procedures" to TSA employees and contractors. Yet these directives and procedures are not released or made known to Americans, as TSA refuses to answer Freedom of Information (FOIA) requests, answers which federal requires they provide. In fact, the Department of Homeland Security gave direct orders to TSA to not respond to such requests without express prior permission from DHS.

Americans have endured it all, stoically standing in the lines, facing the scrutiny, allowing the indignities, doing our patriotic duty to help secure us from the terrorist threat, and allowing an arrogance to grow in the government, convinced that Americans would continue to accept anything forced on them.

But, just before the Thanksgiving holiday travel season, TSA suddenly began to heavily enforce the uses of the "naked" scanners in more airports. For some time, Americans had expressed their opposition to the scanners, objecting to the view seen on TSA screens of their literally naked bodies. Moreover, many Americans object to the fact that the scanners use X-ray technology that many fear is a health hazard. NO matter, the machines were put in place in many airports without warning.

Worse, those who refused to use the scanners were forced to undergo an invasive pat down, enduring the groping of their genitals, with hands inside underwear, to the point of sexual harassment. The TSA showed outright hostility for those who were truly distraught over the invasion of their modesty, let alone their rights as Americans. Enough was enough.

So the Opt Out protest was called, urging holiday travelers to refuse to go into the x-ray scanners, enduring the pat downs, but even then, protesting the sexual groping. The TSA remained determined to carry out the screenings, no matter how long the lines might become. The news media frantically predicted a disastrous travel weekend. The stage was set for the face off between outraged Americans demanding their rights and determined TSA Agents who would not back down.

Came Wednesday, November 24, the day before Thanksgiving. Contrary to the hysterical predictions, the airports were quiet and orderly. Throughout the day on Wednesday, the TSA updated its blog

with the happy statistics. "Minneapolis: wait times are currently 5 – 10 mins. No incidents," went a typical report. "Detroit: 25,000 passengers screened today, and 57 AIT opt-outs. All were screened and continued to their flights." Across the nation TSA reported that lines at most airports were manageable and relatively small numbers of passengers opted out. The obvious gleeful message was that, other than a noisy, radical few, Americans overwhelmingly accepted the TSA screening program. And the news media obediently followed suit in its reports for the day. Opt Out Day, they reported, was a big dud.

Not so fast. There is strong evidence that the TSA played a shrewd game, cleverly manipulating the media, controlling perception. A closer examination of the facts is necessary. For example, Nate Silver, in an article entitled "What the TSA hasn't told us," in the New York Times, revealed a suspicious twist of numbers. For example, reporting on the situation at Los Angeles Airport, the TSA said on its blog, "Los Angeles: 113 AIT opt out across LAX's 8 terminals, which is less than 1% of the approximately 50,000 travelers screened at LAX today."

"What we aren't told," reports Silver, "is how many of those 50,000 passengers were actually asked to pass through full-body scanners (AITs)." Reports from airport after airport indicated that the full-body scanners were in many cases, shut down, roped off and not used. Instead, passengers were sent through the simple medal detectors, thereby avoiding the confrontations of the protestors.

In addition, reports of the unusual quiet in airports across the country indicates that a large number of Americans chose to opt out by not flying at all, instead choosing to either drive or stay home. If so, then the Opt Out protest was actually a huge success, proving that Americans are so upset with the TSA's disregard for their rights and dignity that they would give up being with family before going through the government harassment. Airline passenger numbers, when they are issued in a few months, will confirm or disprove this possibility. But if you have ever had to travel on the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, seeing a quiet airport would certainly seem out of the norm.

In any case, it appears that the TSA, in spite of public denials, did indeed react to the protests, desiring to quiet the rebellion. In short, the tyrants blinked. Americans must take note of that and refuse to back down. The protest for your rights must continue if the arrogance of the government is to be curtailed.

To that end, The Identity Project has listed the following list of demands that Americans should insist the TSA follow:

- **No more secret laws.** TSA has to publish its rules and procedures like every other agency. Any unpublished rules cannot be enforced against citizens. Then Americans will be warned that your only choices are to either groped photographed nude. They would also know that once you enter the security area you have given up all rights and cannot leave the area – or face

prosecution and an \$11,000 fine.

- **No more groping travelers.** Assaults on innocent travelers in a way that the law of almost every state defines sexual harassment should not be the new standard for Federally-approved suspicionless searches.
 - **No more suspicionless searches.** The Fourth Amendment guarantees our rights not to be subjected to any of these searches when there is no reason to suspect us of any crime. The Fifth Amendment protects our right to remain silent, that includes when a TSA agent, common carrier or rent-a-cop demands that we identify ourselves or answer their questions when forced into a locked room or private screen area at the airport. The First Amendment protects our right to "peaceably assemble."
 - **No more secret black lists or secret "no-fly" orders.** The TSA can't bar "certain people" from flying in secret, extra-judicial administration orders. If the TSA thinks someone is guilty of something, arrest them and give them their day in court to confront their accusers – or leave them alone.
 - **No more secret surveillance lists.** TSA's "selectee list" is much larger than the no-fly list. It's how a lot of people end up being "randomly" searched every time they go through an airport. Again, if the TSA has evidence of a crime, arrest them, and treat every traveler equally.
 - **No more lying to the public.** TSA claims its searches are random when they aren't. It claims their machines can't store nude photos when they can. It claims ID is required when it isn't. The history of the TSA is one of lying. Congress should make it a crime for a TSA employee or contractor to lie to a member of the public.
 - **No more identity checkpoints.** Free countries don't demand that citizens produce their "papers" in order to move around.
 - **No more warrantless interrogations (under penalty of denial of travel) or demands for information.**
 - **Restore the right to assemble and the right to travel.** Neither the TSA nor any government agency has the right to prevent us from moving around our own country. If they don't have cause to arrest us, then we're presumed innocent and we're free to move around the airports, the planes and the train stations, the trains and the country.
- It is the duty of every American to stop covering in the corner as these government goons tramp on our Constitutionally-guaranteed rights. To do nothing is to grant it.
- And one more thing; if you are one of those who truly believe that the TSA actions are necessary, and are actually frightened by the protestors who are standing up for their rights, then maybe you are the ones who need to stay off the planes.



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Passengers' Stories of Recent Travel

The Privacy Coalition, of which American Policy Center is a member, has received over 1000 complaints from travelers in the United States about the TSA's new pat-downs, providing a unique vantage point on what is taking place at airports around the nation. These complaints came from men, women and children who reported feeling humiliated and traumatized by these searches, and, in some cases, comparing their psychological impact to sexual assaults.

Recurring themes in these reports include:

- The searches are extremely invasive
- Many travelers are reporting intense feelings of violation and humiliation
- Some report being physically hurt by the searches
- Some feel their searches are punitive
- Reports of gawking by agents
- Reports of seemingly unnecessary repeated touching of intimate areas
- Many vow not to fly any more
- Any traveler may be forced to undergo one of these searches

(The following quotations are a small sampling of those that have been received from traveling Americans. They have been lightly edited for clarity and length. Please be aware that due to the nature of these searches, these complaints often include graphic and sometimes disturbing language.)

Going through the body scanner I said, "I want you to know I do not like this machine." the TSA agent asked me if I would like to opt out. I said "no, I don't want you to touch me like that, I think it's worse," to which she snickered and replied, "well there's a good chance we're gonna do that anyway." When I went through, she said I did need a pat down, and then she said she needed to check my butt and rear crotch.... It was demeaning and indecent....

- **Tiffany from Nevada**

This was a very different and, I maintain, a deliberately abusive experience.... the agent not only felt the inside of my upper thighs but also probed my vagina three separate times. I made it to the end of the search, but then broke down...I cannot and will not allow this to happen to me again.... I continue to have nightmares about this experience.

- **Charlotte in California, female, 68**

When I asked the agent politely for her badge number, she said in a sharp, loud tone, "If you want to know my badge number you can talk to my supervisor!"

- **Heather from New York**

I was the only female in a crowd of men. Even though I was not next in line, I was called over to the body scanner. As I got closer to the scanner, I could clearly hear him say "got a cute one, some DD's." ... I was appalled and decided at that point to "opt out" of the scanner.... I was then put through the pat down procedure which I only can only describe as sexual assault.

- **Caitlin, Connecticut**

The pat down was so invasive that the woman doing it stuck her thumb through my jeans into my vagina,

significantly more than simple resistance. She cupped each of my breasts, and ran her hand inside the waistband of my jeans.... I am upset, humiliated, degraded and feel abused and criminal, when I am guilty of nothing.

- **Janet from Maryland**

I was visibly upset and when he started to fondle me inappropriately I yelled "I want to see your supervisor!" I asked (emphatically) if he was legally allowed to grab my genitals and the supervisor said he was. After fondling my genitals he groped my buttocks and told me to have a good flight.

- **Allen, Nebraska**

She ran her hands all the way up and into my crotch with force. To get graphic she could have felt if I had a feminine pad on. When she finished with the front she did the same with my back to the point that she, what I would call groped, my butt. She went under, in between, and on my breast. It was more intense than my monthly breast exam.

- **Paula M. Hamilton, Corydon, Indiana**

This is the most humiliating experience of my entire life. Having another male on his knees in front or behind me and feeling my private areas. And in full view of other passengers. It is a disgusting sight. I now can not sleep due to the thoughts of these agents on their knees feeling my private areas.... I have never, ever been so humiliated and will never, ever fly as long as this policy is in effect.

- **Ron Wilson, California**

This was, by far, the second most humiliating, and personally violating event in my life - the first being a date-rape in college.

- **M., Connecticut**

While in the "private room"... the agent inappropriately touched my genitalia (more than once) and made me feel incredibly uncomfortable. The agent also pulled down my shorts (about halfway), and I had to ask the agent to let me pull them back up. I was inappropriately touched, groped, rubbed, massaged and sexually harassed. The procedure was violating, degrading, invasive and humiliating.

- **Scott in New Mexico**

My genitals were touched no less than 4 times with the index finger as the screener's hand was slid up my leg until it could go no more into my crotch.

- **Marlene, California**

The female TSA agent did not advise me of an alternative and after she directed me through the scanner she conducted the "pat-down" WITHOUT my permission or WITHOUT warning that she would be making direct and forceful contact with my genitals FOUR times! I felt sexually violated and yet afraid to protest for fear that I would be put on some kind of no-fly list or miss my flight.

- **Kim, Hawaii**

I have Type 1 Diabetes and wear a wireless insulin pump. TSA supervisors... informed me that since I have to wear a medical device, I will be subject to the enhanced pat-down every time I fly. It's not okay with me to have a stranger grope my genitals once, much less 12-15 times per year. Please, please, please help those of us who are being given no choice in this matter.

- **Laura Seay, Georgia**



The People's Republic of San Francisco bans Happy Meals

By Tom DeWeese

San Francisco hates McDonalds. The Board of Supervisors would ban them from the city if they had the guts. Instead the city's "leaderthings" cower behind radical, senseless rules and regulations – just for the community good, whether the community wants them or not.

Did you know that San Francisco has a regulation limiting McDonalds to just 7 restaurants inside the city limits? In every other city in the nation the number of McDonalds is directly related to the amount of business that is available to support the stores. If they aren't prospering, or there isn't an available market then the company won't build more stores or restaurants. If there is more demand – they will answer it. Except in San Francisco where the Board of Supervisors, mired under an exhausting far left political agenda, know what's best for their residents.

So it is no surprise that the benevolent city's self-appointed protectors of the lame, the poor and the obviously stupid, took matters into their own hands to protect the children from the horrors of McDonalds' Happy Meals – and especially the toy inside that is used to entice children to eat poison. Specifically, the Board of Supervisors imposed nutritional guidelines for children's meals that all restaurants in the city will have to follow – if they want to put a toy inside. It was obvious who the main target was - McDonalds. The rule sets limits on the amount of calories, fat, salt and sugar as well as requires meals to have servings of vegetables and fruit. Obesity is the "disease" of the day from which we must save the children. And, say the food police – the toy inside the bag is an inducement to hook the children on unhealthy foods. In their eyes, McDonalds is nothing more than a food junky pusher. The horror of it all.

The reality is that there is no danger from the toy – a treat for your child – an adventure like when we used to get a toy inside our Cracker Jacks boxes. It's no different than when we used to fill out a form posted on the back of the cereal box to get a toy from the mysterious place called Battle Creek, Michigan. The practice goes back beyond the Little Orphan Annie decoder rings. They are children looking to have fun and adventure. And the food police seem to hate that fact. To them, kids are simply pawns to be used to enforce their political agenda.

The extreme arguments made against the toy in the Happy Meal are almost hysterical. Leslie Samuelrich, chief of staff for one of the leading food police think tanks, Corporate Accountability International (CAI), is in a panic over why more people aren't crusading against fast food restaurants. Said Samuelrich, "If the product were a gun or drugs or even a poorly designed toy that could injure a child, the corporation responsible for making it and then marketing it to the most vulnerable among us would be on the hook." She apparently thinks cheeseburgers are akin to assault rifles. The CAI has even called Ronald McDonald a "duplicitous clown."

Facts in the matter show that there is no credible research linking toys in kid's meals to childhood obesity. None. Moreover, the assault of McDonalds ignores the fact that the restaurant has indeed made an attempt to give parents a choice of nutrition in Happy Meals. Danya Proud, McDonald's USA spokeswoman said, "Any fair and objective review of our menu and the actions we've taken will demonstrate we've added multiple options for parents to choose. That includes Apple Dippers

(bagged, sliced, pre-peeled apples, low-fat 1% milk, 100% apple juice and Chicken McNuggets made with white meat.”

Of course anyone silly enough to believe in freedom of choice or parental decisions miss the point. This is about government control – not child health. Will childhood obesity rates fall after they ban the toys in Happy Meals? Of course not. But San Francisco is the incubator for the nanny state. If they can make it law there, it can and will be picked up by the leading nut on your city council. All for the public good, of course. We can suffer quietly – or work to get these idiots out of office. Of course, if you live in San Francisco, there is probably little hope of electing someone who actually understands the proper role of government. Perhaps you had just better move and leave that asylum to the inmates.

DR

Please forgive me!!!!

From Tom DeWeese

The October issue of The DeWeese Report seemed to be cursed from the start. I was about a week late in writing it, which set back the production schedule. Then the printer failed to deliver the printed newsletter on time – almost two weeks late, causing the mail shop to delay it even more until it could find an open spot in its work schedule. That put us right up against election mail. Many people don't know this, but before an election the Post Office “Red Tags” candidate mail so that it goes out before any other mail. That forced our newsletter to the back of the pack, another delay of at least a week, meaning that when the newsletter did finally reach mail boxes it was more than a month late.

But that wasn't the bad news! It gets much worse. With that October issue of The DeWeese Report came a note from me, shocking many of American Policy Center's most loyal and generous supporters. The note said that the supporter had not contributed to APC for over a year and so this would be their last issue of The DeWeese Report.

The note was intended to go to a very specific group of APC supporters who had not given in about 18 months, explaining that I couldn't afford to keep sending the newsletter without continued support.

The problem came when our mail shop, somehow mixed up the lists and, to my utter horror, dropped the note into the wrong envelopes – those of our most loyal donors- many of whom give multiple times during the year. And boy, did these folks let me know about it, with letter after letter detailing their every donation for the last several years, usually with a note scolding my bookkeeping skills. Many said, in so many words, that they were not going to continue supporting such an ungrateful organization. In sixteen years of producing The DeWeese Report, we have never had such a disaster as happened to the cursed October issue.

I've made a determined effort to call or write letters to everyone who wrote to me to explain the situation, and everyone has been very understanding when given the details. But I know that only a few usually take action and write a letter, while the majority say nothing, quietly determined to simply stop supporting APC.

So, for those who have not yet heard our explanation, and for all APC supporters who took an understandable offense at what appeared to be a callous disregard for your loyal support – please accept my most sincere apology. It was a mistake that will not happen again. I value every one of you and, as I say so often, without your support APC could do nothing. I'm sorry and thank you for understanding that mistakes do happen.

DR

From Ron Arnold
Center for the Defense of Free Enterprise
12500 NE 10th Place
Bellevue, WA 98009

Secret Entity Created by States to Sneak Cap and Trade into law.

ALERT: It looks like the climate bill debate has already been decided by an entity created by 7 states, soon to be expanded to more states in an end run around Congress's failure to pass Cap and Trade laws. That means the voters never had a chance to say "NO!"

The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) is an entity created by the Governors of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York and Vermont. The Board of Directors is made up of the heads of the states' energy and environmental regulatory agencies. Once the states have joined, it is mandatory that they comply to all policies issued by the RGGI. Membership is irrevocable. Soon RGGI will expand to every state and stick you with astronomical energy prices and a cap and trade policy that the Congress could not pass because of voter opposition.

RGGI is the nation's first mandatory greenhouse gas cap and trade regulating entity. This waste of tax dollars is responsible for "making an impact on climate change" in 7 Northeast states. Never mind that GLOBAL WARMING ISN'T EVEN REAL! The only impact RGGI has made so far is they have raised energy prices and created a slush fund for each member state. What exactly that money is being used for is unclear. Each state is capped on their carbon emissions and taxed if they use them up. RGGI added a 0.9% increase in energy prices in New England.

STATE BUREAUCRATS CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO SECRETLY TAX ENERGY UNDER THE GUISE OF CLIMATE CHANGE!

These state Governors have signed onto an entity that is not answerable to the people and yet affects everyone. This is tyranny. While everyday Americans struggle to pay the bills and live through the stress of the Recession, RGGI is rolling in the dough and power. RGGI Chief, Jonathan Schrag is living a life most of us could only dream of. In June, Schrag and his wife Kristen purchased a \$2.2 million dollar loft in Manhattan. Schrag's posh condo is 2,000 square feet and has three bedrooms and two bathrooms with a nice view of the Manhattan skyline. Schrag's luxurious residence is only a five block walk to the RGGI headquarters. I guess he didn't want to risk creating a carbon foot print by driving to work.

OUR TAX DOLLARS ARE FUNDING LUXURIOUS LIFESTYLES FOR CROOKS

Schrag is paid to keep secrets. He has refused to disclose how much money he makes and the salaries of his employees. Schrag told New Jersey Watch Dog to get lost when they asked him to disclose RGGI's records. In the most recent public disclosure requests from the IRS Schrag declined to reveal how much everyone is paid in the organization. Most companies have to reveal to the IRS the salaries of their employees. RGGI is given special treatment because our government is backing their scheme.

The corruptocrats in Washington are helping to hide this massive force from the American people. Everyday Americans work hard to earn money and provide for their families while Washington fat cats get paid to accomplish nothing! The crooks behind RGGI must be exposed and held accountable!

THIS IS A FIGHT WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE. YOUR FUTURE IS AT STAKE - SO IS THE FUTURE OF YOUR FAMILY

- 1. Select Below to Tell Congress They Investigate RGGI NOW!**
- 2. Send this Alert to EVERYONE you know** -- every like-minded friend on your personal email list who wants stop RGGI from making energy prices skyrocket! We need to get HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS of letters

delivered to EACH AND EVERY Senator and Congressmen.

3. Keep calling your Senators today, toll free numbers include 1-877-851-6437 and 1-866-220-0044, or call the Senate Switchboard at 1-202-225-3121 AND REGISTER YOUR OUTRAGE Demand an Investigation into the Secret Cap & Tax entity!

4. CALL President Obama, 202-456-1111 and 202-456-1414 expressing your disdain and ABSOLUTE REJECTION of this scheme to blow through our tax dollars to fund a bogus organization and pad the pocketbooks of his buddies.

5. Print this page and pass it around where normal working class Americans gather. Polling data reveals that Americans do not want more taxes!

DO NOT BE SILENCED - MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

DR

Sample letter or fax to send to your Senators:

Address: Senator _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20501

To: [TITLE] [FIRST NAME] [LAST NAME]
Washington, DC

RE: Washington Passes Secret Climate Tax Bill

Dear [TITLE] [LAST NAME]:

I am writing to respectfully demand that Congress investigate the corruption behind RGGI.

I am demanding Congress investigate RGGI because it is essentially a tax payer funded shell company. Beltway insiders say RGGI was created to "combat the threat of global warming." Even though global warming does not exist, RGGI has accomplished nothing for the environment. What they have accomplished is they have increased energy prices and created slush funds in each of their member states. No one knows how much money is in the slush funds or what they are used for.

If you didn't think the RGGI conspiracy could get any more shocking, think again. The Chair of RGGI, Jonathan Schrag recently purchased a \$2.2 million dollar condo in Manhattan. His spacious loft is only 5 blocks away from RGGI. I guess he made sure he wouldn't have to pay the gas taxes he is going to push for. Someone is clearly paying Schrag a pretty penny to do nothing. RGGI has refused to let the American public know how much Schrag and their other employees make. I guess the Obama machine's lofty goals of transparency turned out to be too complicated.

I urge you to investigate the RGGI scandal. We cannot allow our government to set up secret organizations that needlessly tax hard working Americans. If the corruption at RGGI is not exposed the government will seek to expand it to every state.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]

[ADDRESS]

[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP]

Oil Drilling Moratorium Is An Act Of Treason

By Alan Caruba

TYRANNY

If you had any doubt that Barack Obama's agenda is to destroy the United States of America, but still want more proof, I offer you the announcement that his administration will not provide any offshore oil leases in the eastern Gulf of Mexico, Pacific, or Atlantic coasts...for at least seven years!

In October, a study by the Maguire Energy Institute at Southern Methodist University concluded that the reduction of shallow water oil drilling permits that followed the BP oil spill would put as many as 40,000 jobs at risk and cost the region \$4.3 billion in lost wages and revenues.

At the same time, a consortium of foreign oil companies led by the Spanish firm, Repsol, working with India's state-run Oil & Natural Gas Company and Norway's StatoilHydro are exploring for oil off the coast of Cuba where drilling in its waters will proceed even while American and other oil companies will be denied access to vast reserves off the coasts of all of the Gulf States.

From Alaska to Florida, offshore of California or any of the East Coast States, Obama is destroying America's energy future in the same fashion his administration has done everything in its power to shut down the nation's coal mining industry.

Here are the statistics that demonstrate how dependent we are on fossil fuels: In total they provide 84.9% of the energy Americans use. Of that, coal provides 22.4% and oil represents 39.2%, while natural gas accounts for 23.2%. Other energy sources include nuclear power at 8.3%, hydroelectric at 2.4% and the least efficient and dependable, wind at 0.3% and solar at 0.08%. (Data source: the Institute for Energy Research)

In March, Gov. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, a Democrat, said, "President Obama has made his intentions to bankrupt the coal industry clear. EPA's actions this week demonstrate that he will wage a war against the energy source that generates half of America's electricity and is our nation's most abundant, reliable, and affordable energy sources."

Gov. Manchin said that estimates were that the administration's actions would affect 65,000 members of the Appalachian workforce who would lose some of the highest-paying jobs

available in the region. At least \$12 billion in lost economic development was forecast.

Nor is the Obama attack on the nation's energy supply restricted to coal and oil.

In October, the Obama administration demanded \$880 million in exchange for a \$7.5 billion loan guarantee necessary to the construction of a Maryland nuclear facility. The plant would have generated thousands of jobs as well as needed megawatts of electricity for that State's residents. The project was cancelled.

State by State as America ceases to mine its own coal and loses access its own oil reserves, the prices of energy which will have to be imported will rise while thousands of jobs related to these industries disappear, wrecking the economies of entire communities and delaying the recovery of energy-rich States.

These are acts of treason against the nation, if not in the narrow legalistic definition, but in the larger context of the harm being done to a nation for which affordable, abundant energy has been at the core of its economy and well-being.

The moratorium is the equivalent of an act of war on the ability of Americans to have the energy they need to recover from the present economy, to provide the jobs necessary to that recovery, and to fuel everything from the utilities that generate electricity and the nation's fleet of trucks that transport the vast bulk of all goods.

This agenda of economic destruction has been carried out since Obama took office in 2009. It is the reason Obamacare was inflicted on the nation, asserting control over one sixth of the nation's economy. It is the reason the government took over General Motors and Chrysler. It is the reason Obama failed to come back from South Korea with a trade treaty and has stalled others in the pipeline.

In countless ways, the engine of the federal government is being used to betray and impoverish Americans.

Cry treason! For that is what it is.

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Alan Caruba writes a daily post at <http://factsnotfantasy.blogspot.com>. An author, business and science writer, he is the founder of The National Anxiety Center.