

Improving National Energy Security

USEA's report, National Energy Security Post 9/11 (go to www.usea.org), makes it clear that the threat to U.S. energy security is real. Events since the summer of 2002 when this report was first released have confirmed and reinforced this reality.

Experts recognize these threats occur both in a global geopolitical context and within a context of domestic infrastructure. These challenges are formidable – however our industry and government working together can take action that can have positive effects.

The lesson is simple. Energy security requires carefully orchestrated planning and implementation. It can be accomplished without sacrificing environmental objectives. The answer is not regulation and constraint, but rather continual research and development and introductions of the technologies necessary to accommodate both economic demands for increased energy supplies while also protecting the environment.

Specifically:

- U.S. oil import dependency from unstable sources can be slashed dramatically.
- Critical energy infrastructure protection can be enhanced significantly through advanced technology.
- Energy security, economic and environmental concerns can be balanced effectively.

This can be accomplished by:

- Encouraging efficiency and conservation through education and information programs leading to more informed consumer choice and citizen understanding.
- Furthering robust, diverse and efficient energy markets by facilitating access and development of domestic energy resources in an environmentally responsible manner.
- Developing and monitoring contingency plans and emergency preparedness regarding all aspects of energy production, transportation, and utilization.

Please visit our website at www.usea.org for copies of previous Energy Policy Reports and USEA's report "National Energy Security Post 9/11"