



Eric Deaton, U.S. Senate Candidate
1387 Crawford-Tom's Run Road
New Lebanon, OH 45345
www.deatonforsenate.com
937-751-6670

Energy Policy

The leaders of our country have talked about energy policies heavily since the early 70's when we had the first oil price run-up. At that time OPEC was trying to control the production flow of the oil in order to raise their selling price. It was simple economics; lower the supply to slightly lower than the current demand and let the price per barrel escalate. This worked for a while, but since crude oil is a very common commodity the supply from non OPEC sources eventually rose to meet the demand and the price stabilized. The United States realized that by harnessing and using some of its own oil reserves, then it could alleviate OPEC's controlling grip on the market. This worked for a number of years, but as our country clamped down on exploration and the rights to production of our own oil reserves we have once again abdicated the world's critical oil production capacity to others.

The countries and cooperatives that have the most readily available oil control the production and set the price by maintaining that flow at or under demand. The real demand and artificially low production always hold or push the prices up. Worse yet than us having no control of the price of oil is the fact that this highly imported product sends large sums of money to many of our enemies. Thankfully, the higher oil prices have pushed the world to develop other forms of energy and applications to use them.

Some sources of energy in use today are old technologies such as burning wood for heat, coal for heat & electricity and oil for heat & internal combustion engine fuel. Hydroelectric power has been around for a century and solar power goes back to the 70's. Wind power has been used for many years, but is becoming more popular, efficient and easier to tie into the electrical grid. Geothermal heating systems make sense for heating homes in the winter and cooling them in the summer. Nuclear power is now safer than ever and incredibly efficient once the installed base is in place. With new technology (much of which already exist) we can use all these sources of energy more efficiently and in a more environmentally friendly manner. In addition to these older energy sources, mankind continues to be innovative and discover new ways to harness energy, such as tidal and ocean current generators, ethanol from farm crop waste products and fuel cells that can operate on water. With any luck, we may still yet learn to harness cold fusion and solve the world's energy problems for good.

With so many forms of energy available, we need to learn to harness them, use them efficiently and do it all without destroying the environment around us. Common sense tells us that when we use the locally available sources of fuel close to where they are found, it is much more efficient than moving them around the globe. Some energy sources do not make sense in some areas, while others can be economical and appropriate in the same place. We should strive to match up the technology and resources as much as is possible with the needs and locations around the world. By working together with the other nations of the world, it should be recognized that utilizing the fuel sources where they are found is the best way to go. Even when the local energy resources are not quite as efficient or environmentally friendly, it is still better than bringing in different sources of fuel from thousands of miles away or deploying costly high technology energy supply systems.



Eric Deaton, U.S. Senate Candidate
1387 Crawford-Tom's Run Road
New Lebanon, OH 45345
www.deatonforsenate.com
937-751-6670

The more expensive technologies and high investment energy solutions need to be of high quality, made to serve for long product lifecycles to make their payoffs worthwhile and be safely deployed. These payoffs need to be evaluated over the entire product lifecycle to determine if they are truly efficient and make sense when considering the up front cost, man-hours of labor to build and maintain them and their operating efficiency. We may find that some technologies simply are not economical or any more environmentally friendly over the long haul. The wastes generated by the processes used to retrieve and harness the energy sources also should be considered when calculating the costs of these technologies.

In review, doesn't it make sense to have coal burning power plants in areas where there is coal and simply implement the modern technology to burn the coal efficiently and cleanly? Isn't it obvious that in areas where there is water flow, that we can utilize hydroelectric generators? Where there is natural gas reserves shouldn't we use them to run power plants and heat homes? When there are steady and predictable wind patterns we can utilize wind power. In sunny areas that have stable weather and sun nearly year round we can deploy solar panels for a clean energy source. Let's make battery storage devices a priority so that electric cars can become a reality and be recharged in a more efficient way than burning fossil fuels to power them. How about placing nuclear power plants in the areas that don't fit any other fuel source easily available provided there are stable fault lines and no other major threats from Mother Nature? Nuclear fission reactions are an excellent method of generating electrical power while being rugged and safer than ever. The nuclear waste doesn't need to pollute the earth, but it can be bundled up and put in places it is safe to store until such time that we have a way to break it down or reprocess it.

Everybody needs to remember that all of these technologies have a cost. Some are a larger investment up front, but are highly efficient over their life while others cost less to install and have a lower efficiency in the long run. We need to look at the paybacks based on the overall cost. The real cost includes the installation, operation and even the long-term environmental impact costs. All these systems have an impact on the environment, generate waste and tie up a certain level of raw materials to implement them.

A multi-pronged approach would be the best way to achieve a comprehensive energy policy. This would be best suited to our country since we are a country with a diverse class of energy resources. I don't think we have ever seen an all-encompassing energy policy in our country. There certainly doesn't appear to be any leadership from the top to be energy efficient and there is so much waste in our country, that it is just incredible. If we got our act together and behaved responsibly and acted as good stewards of our planet while using our resources efficiently, then we could cut our energy usage dramatically.

We all need to turn off the lights when you leave a room, turn off the water when you are not in the bathroom, fix our leaky faucets and unplug items when they are not in use. We just need to be good stewards. If the guy in the White House and our Congress would lead by example, then the nation would start to follow. If you multiply that by the number of households across America we could have a significant impact on the amount of energy we use as a nation.



Copyright 2010 – All rights reserved

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Eric Deaton to U.S. Senate, Dianna Anderson Deaton, Treasurer



Eric Deaton, U.S. Senate Candidate
1387 Crawford-Tom's Run Road
New Lebanon, OH 45345
www.deatonforsenate.com
937-751-6670

Let us voters notify our leadership that we expect them to craft a truly comprehensive energy policy. This policy should allow us to use all the resources available here, aid the development of new and better technologies and allow the exploration and recovery of more reserves. This policy should also address energy conservation, eliminating energy losses and using a common sense approach to deploying our technology and resources.

We should expect no less from Washington to get the job done and from ourselves to be more conservation minded.

Eric Deaton



Copyright 2010 – All rights reserved

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Eric Deaton to U.S. Senate, Dianna Anderson Deaton, Treasurer