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LARSON CALLS ON OBAMA TO SUPPORT NATURAL GAS POLICY

Washington, DC -- Congressman John B. Larson (*CT-01*), Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus, encouraged the President today to use his State of the Union speech tonight to make the case for a renewed investment in natural gas technology as an alternative energy source.

Chairman Larson said, **“For the sake of our economy and our national security it is vital that we stop exporting dollars overseas for foreign oil. Our reliance on foreign oil is putting our homeland and our jobs in serious jeopardy. We must turn the corner to alternative sources of energy and I believe that natural gas is a vital part of our efforts to do that.**

“I encourage President Obama to advocate for a new investment in natural gas in his State of the Union speech tonight. Natural gas is an American alternative energy that, with the right investments now, can help transition us to a clean American energy future. Encouraging this industry will create good-paying jobs here at home and boost our economy for the long term. With support from President Obama, I believe we will be able to do what’s right for this nation and make the investments we need to promote the American natural gas industry.

“During the Bush Administration, we went eight long years without a serious investment in alternative energies like natural gas. Now, Democrats are changing that focus – putting the future and safety of American families first. If Republicans are serious about working together, this initiative which boosts American businesses, creates jobs and reduces our dependence on foreign oil, should be one their leadership can get behind.”

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