

It's definitely not something I'm proud of but, I may have been the very first casualty of the Build Back Better Plan. Three hours after President Bidens inauguration, I lost my job constructing the Keystone Pipeline. Now I realize this was only one project but, what I really feared was the consequences this decision would have for the future. I now see those fears becoming reality. Not, only did I lose opportunity for employment on the Keystone Pipeline, I'm losing employment opportunities because energy companies seem to be hesitant to plan other needed projects. All this is happening when demand for energy is rising.

Build Back Better shouldn't mean the total neglect and destruction of our energy infrastructure as we know it. People from coast to coast are feeling the pain of rising energy prices. There seems to be no thought given to the hundreds of thousands of workers in the industry or the millions of products we use every day that are provided by fossil fuels. There shouldn't be a fear of a heating shortage in the Northeast this coming winter. There should be none of this but, yet here we are.

Americans need to know that there isn't a fuel shortage, that's not the cause of rising prices. Rising prices are the direct result of the lack of infrastructure it takes to get products moved to where their needed most, mainly pipeline construction. The Construction of the Atlantic Coast, Penn East, Constitution Pipelines would have taken much needed energy to the Northeast this winter but instead, they were canceled. They were canceled because of over-regulation and a rush to replace our affordable, reliable Energy Infrastructure with a Green Energy Plan that is nowhere near ready or capable of producing the amount of energy needed in this country. Every penny in the increase of energy takes roughly a billion dollars out of the pockets of Americans over a year's time. These can't be popular decision and I believe elections in the years to come will prove that.

The CEO's gathered here today have provided this country with something we've all demanded, affordable and reliable energy, our government even demanded it. We've built military bases in other countries to protect resources and asked these companies to deliver the product, now they're being treated like the villains. The disruption of the Colonial Pipeline earlier this year should have proven just how important the work people like me and these companies perform is. We all witnessed the panic of one pipeline being shut down for only a week. I was hoping it would shed some light on an even bigger problem though. Why do we depend on just one single pipeline to service such a big part of the country? The answer is simple. It cost more to plan and permit a new pipeline than it does to actually build it. Neglecting to add capacity with new pipelines is a dangerous thing for our country, just like neglecting roads and bridges will be.

It's going to take an all of the above approach to our energy future. Renewables have a place and will be developed, Carbon Capture technology needs to be developed but, to demonize the fossil fuel industry will only hurt this country. I belong to a Union that specializes in pipeline construction. I've spent over 25 years developing the skills it takes to be successful and I'm compensated well for it. The government's idea of shutting down my industry and retraining me for a different job isn't realistic. I'm too far in life to be starting over in an entry level position. There's a whole new generation of workers coming and if they choose to pursue a career in Green Energy then I support that, just like I support any private companies right to develop it. What I don't support is the government limiting my employment opportunities especially when the product I help provide is still in great demand.

To sum it up, the current Administration is having a direct negative impact on energy prices. The Administration is making it more difficult for workers in this chosen industry to find employment. My

Crisis isn't the climate. My crisis is the mortgage at months end, the food I need to put on the table, the healthcare I need to provide. That's why inclosing, I'd like to personally thank each CEO here today for providing me, my family, and my Union the employment opportunities you have.