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Obama says deficit plan gives fair return to taxpayers from energy industry

The president plans to raise \$866 billion from allowing the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts for upper income earners to expire, \$410 billion from putting new limits on the deductions and exclusions taken by those making more than \$250,000 a year and \$300 billion from eliminating special interest tax breaks and closing loopholes for large corporations including energy companies. With another \$1.5 trillion in spending cuts, the president called the proposal a balanced approach that would "finish what we started" during the summer's deficit debate. That effort fell short of creating the \$4 trillion grand bargain Obama had pushed for and ended up creating the joint congressional committee that has been charged with finding at least \$1.5 trillion in savings by the end of the year.

The White House has already said it plans to find \$41 billion for the president's "American Jobs Act" through eliminating subsidies for the oil and gas industry, but the deficit reduction language the president sent to Congress today shows that those changes are only the tip of the iceberg for energy companies. The president also wants to inventory accounting practices often used by energy companies, reinstate the "Superfund taxes" of the 1990s and eliminate tax breaks specifically for coal companies. On top of new taxes, the president's new plan calls for a host of reforms, including several at the Department of the Interior that would directly affect the energy industry. The White House says efforts like instituting a fee on nonproducing oil and gas leases and reforming mining fees would save some \$1.6 billion over 10 years. "These proposals would give taxpayers a fair return from energy development and mining on Federal lands and waters, while providing incentives for companies to get leases into production or relinquish them," the plan states.

American Petroleum Institute CEO Jack Gerard called the president's latest proposal a "job destroyer." "It makes us less energy secure and it drives investment overseas," Gerard said today. "It's ironic that he is focused on our industry for punitive treatment at the same time that we can be a significant job creator and revenue generator for the federal government."

Extended Temp Forecast: Chicago Area

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
62 - 74	52 - 69	49 - 61	50 - 57	49 - 57

Electricity Pricing Areas – On Peak Oct 2011

	Sep 19, 2011	Per kWh
PJM	West	\$.04438
Cinergy	Peak Monthly	\$.03502

ComEd Average Day Ahead LMP Electric Price

Time Period	Average per Kwh
Sep 1 - Sep 30	\$.02934
Oct 1 - Oct 31	\$.02702
Nov 1 - Nov 30	\$.02778
Dec 1 - Dec 31	\$.03545
Jan 1 - Jan 31, 2011	\$.03871
Feb 1 - Feb 28	\$.03581
March 1- Mar 31	\$.03668
April 1 - April 30	\$.03448
May1- May 31	\$.03954
June 1 - June 30	\$.03851
July 1 thru July 31	\$.05170
Aug 1 - Aug 31	\$.04064
Sep 1 thru Sep 19	\$.03112

Weather Today: Partly cloudy this afternoon. High around 75F. Winds S at 10 to 15 mph. **Tonight:** Partly cloudy skies. A few showers late. Thunder possible. Low 62F. Winds SSW at 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 30%. **Wed:** A shower or two possible early with partly cloudy skies in the afternoon. High 69F. Winds WSW at 15 to 25 mph. Chance of rain 30%. **Thu:** Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 40s. **Fri:** Occasional showers possible. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 50s.

