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ENERGY POLICY: House Republicans pitch ANWR, offshore drilling for infrastructure

House Republicans are moving forward with Speaker John Boehner's plan to tie new energy production to infrastructure spending with a pair of bills that would expand offshore oil and gas leases and allow drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

The two bills unveiled are intended to generate revenue for infrastructure projects, offering Republicans a viable alternative to President Obama's funding plans.

One bill from Rep. Steve Stivers (R-Ohio) would require lease sales in certain areas in the Atlantic and Pacific, as well as require a number of lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico and off the Virginia coast that were delayed or canceled by the Obama administration. The bill would also remove a congressional moratorium on energy production in the eastern Gulf of Mexico.

"The U.S. has vast energy resources that are not being developed due to federal government roadblocks," said Stivers. "Removing these barriers and allowing expanded American energy production will create long-term job growth, reduce our dependence on foreign oil, and provide much-needed revenue to help pay for vital infrastructure improvements."

The plan would allow any state with drilling off its shores, in addition to the Gulf of Mexico states currently covered, to receive 37.5 percent of the revenues.

Meanwhile, a separate bill from Reps. Doc Hastings (R-Wash.) and Don Young (R-Alaska) would open up sections of ANWR for future energy production. According to a release, the bill would allow oil and natural gas development on 3 percent of the North Slope reserve.

Hastings said the bill would "produce billions of barrels of American-made energy and generate billions of dollars," while also creating tens of thousands of jobs.

The plan has seen opposition from Democrats and likely would not make it through the Senate or White House. Some House Democrats have questioned whether the expanded energy production would bring in enough revenue on a quick enough schedule to support the dwindling highways fund or provide an upfront boost for the infrastructure sector.

Electricity Pricing Areas – Nov 15, 2011

LMP Zone	Per kWh
Com Ed	\$.02976
PJM	\$.03270

ComEd Average Day Ahead LMP Electric Price

Time Period	Average per Kwh
Nov1-Nov 30, 2010	\$.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 - Sep 30	\$.03058
Oct 1- Oct31	\$.02968
Nov 1 thru Nov 14	\$.02989

Weather Today: Partly cloudy skies. High 63F. Winds SW at 15 to 25 mph. **Tonight:** Mostly clear. Low 36F. Winds WNW at 10 to 20 mph. **Tomorrow:** Sunshine and some clouds. High 46F. Winds WNW at 10 to 20 mph. **Thu:** More sun than clouds. Highs in the low 40s and lows in the mid 30s. **Fri:** Windy with times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the mid 40s. **Sat:** Chance of showers. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the upper 30s.

