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Made in America Panel Connects Lack of Jobs to Obama's Lack of a Sane Energy policy

Neal Asbury began his nationally syndicated "Neal Asbury's Made in America" show on Radio America by advocating for a sane energy policy, which is essentially non-existent from the Obama administration. Asbury equated energy independence and support of domestic energy suppliers with American job creation.

"Why is this so hard for the Obama administration to understand? Coal supplies 50 percent of our energy needs and directly or indirectly employs 1.5 million Americans. Yet Obama has chosen to declare war on coal. The result is that he is the war's first victim since he has lost the support of the United Coal Mine Workers of America, which supported Obama in 2008. It's gotten so bad that a convicted felon received 40 % of the votes in the West Virginia primary as a protest against Obama's energy policy," said Asbury.

Asbury noted that Republicans are receiving more contributions from the coal industry than at any time since 1990. He predicted that West Virginia is a bell weather of the eroding support for Obama from key swing states such as Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Joining the show as a return guest was Republican Congressman Mike Pompeo, who represents the 4th District of Kansas. A graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, Pompeo became a successful entrepreneur, founding Thayer

Aerospace along with three partners, which eventually grew to more than 400 Kansas employees. Today, he serves on the Energy and Commerce committee, the oldest committee in the House, which has jurisdiction over nearly half of all legislative subjects, including federal law relating to health care, telecommunications, energy, manufacturing and trade.

Pompeo is the author of the Energy Freedom and Economic Prosperity Act, a bill that would eliminate all tax credits related to energy. Pompeo's office estimates that the bill could save up to \$90 billion in tax expenditures over the next ten years. The legislation proposes that these savings be used to reduce the corporate income tax rate.

The bill is designed to eliminate subsidies so a level playing field is created for all types of energy, including alternative energy and traditional fossil fuel energy. The bill has received widespread approval in the Senate, but the House has yet to hear the bill.

"Affordable energy will create tens of thousands of U.S. jobs by reducing the tax burden on innovators and entrepreneurs who could help contribute to developing new technologies to ensure our energy independence and create jobs. Instead of handing out tax credits and payouts, which haven't worked, just lower the corporate taxes of energy suppliers. It's not for the Obama administration to pick en-

ergy favorites. The market will determine the winners and losers," said Pompeo.

Pompeo is a proponent of letting the capital markets determine which are the best energy options. He also wants to see regulatory reforms when it comes to energy oversight.

"We have to stop the business of punishing producers of affordable energy," concluded Pompeo.

The discussion between Neal Asbury and co-host Dr. Rich Roffman returned to the Obama war on coal.

"Job creation is so important when it comes to supporting the coal industry. When an industry employees 1.5 million workers, we can't afford an energy policy that creates uncertainty in the market. This prevents entrepreneurs --our job creators --from hiring. They are looking for clarity in an energy policy so they have the confidence to hire more workers. But they have lost confidence in this president, and are waiting for a sane energy policy," said Asbury.

Co-host Dr. Rich Roffman agreed, and suggested that the Obama energy plan is a failure, and characterized it as "frightening."

"Obama is an ideologue, who is going after fossil fuel production, especially coal. His veto of the Keystone Project is a perfect example. This project would have em-



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ployed more than 40,000 workers. He can't get beyond his belief. With his war on coal, he has shot himself in the foot for this coming election," added Roffman.

Joining the show next was well-known columnist, author, and return guest David Harsanyi, who is a senior reporter for Capitol Hill-based Human Events. Harsanyi's widely read column has been syndicated nationally through Creators Syndicate since 2008, and is carried by newspapers, magazines and websites across the country.

Commenting on the JP Morgan announcement of a \$2 billion loss as a result of ill-conceived derivative trading, Harsanyi suggested that the government should not be considering any type of new regulations.

"If you allow people to take a risk, they pay for it if they guess wrong. Let's not get excited. JP Morgan made \$19 billion in profits, so even a \$2 billion loss is not going to shut them down. I wish the government got as worked up on ending government waste as they did on derivative waste. This whole thing has turned into a giant distraction," said Harsanyi.

He would like to see the government break up bigger banks, who took advantage of government bailout money to buy out their competitors. Now they are bigger than ever.

He suggested a two-tier system for investments. In one tier, conservative investors could put money in the bank which is insured by FDIC. Those who want to take risks, but with uninsured money, could go

the JP Morgan way. The rewards can be great, but so are the potential losses.

Joining the show as the last guest was Larry Pratt, Executive Director of Gun Owners of America (www.gunowners.org), a national membership organization of 300,000 Americans dedicated to promoting their Second Amendment freedom to keep and bear arms.

Pratt and his members are incensed about a provision that was tacked onto the National Defense Authorization Act (Section 102) that allows citizens to be detained without a warrant. It also calls for the military to play a role in this program.

"There is a big difference in the way police and the military work. The police are trained to detain law-breakers; the military is trained to kill enemies. They shouldn't be doing police work," said Pratt.

He noted that the State of Virginia has already moved to nullify this new law and is moving to have it rescinded. He predicts that other states will soon follow suit. In fact, two members of Congress (a Republican and a Democrat) are working to have the law rescinded.

Once again, Asbury and Roffman introduced their "Cronyism Report," an ongoing look at how federal funding payouts are wasting taxpayer dollars.

Dr. Roffman pointed a finger at the Department of Agriculture, which has authorized millions to Open Range which was supposed to deliver high-speed wireless to

as many as 500 communities in 17 states—as part of the failed LightSquared project. The company, based in Colorado, has eliminated hundreds of positions leaving about 48 workers remaining. Great investment!

"The government should not get involved in handouts or regulating private companies. Let them take the risks that all entrepreneurs must take. Sometimes you win, sometimes you lose, but you can't begrudge their success, or the jobs they create. Entrepreneurs and small business have to go to private equity firms to get their money, because banks aren't lending. So no matter what you think about Bain Capital they created 14,000 jobs. That's what private enterprises can do," said Asbury.

Each week Neal Asbury's Made in America provides Neal's insights into the week's top news stories and their impact on the worlds of entrepreneurship, small business ownership and the overall economy. Neal's analysis, together with co-host Dr. Richard Roffman, a veteran 30-year publisher with extensive domestic and international experience, takes a non-biased approach based on real life experience in business as an American manufacturer and exporter. Made in America airs nationally each Saturday from 7-8:00 PM on Radio America. Link to Made in America at <http://www.nealasburysmadeinamerica.com>.



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