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December 18, 2013

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The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
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Dear Mr. President:

I read with great interest that your administration will be releasing an updated National Security Strategy of the United States in January 2014. While the inter-agency process that will produce this document is undoubtedly already underway, I write you now to ask that you include a discussion of the enormously beneficial impact of the U.S. oil and gas boom on our nation's strategic posture. I note that the previous National Security Strategy made no mention of the unconventional oil and gas revolution. This may have been understandable in 2010, but would not be in 2014.

This past Monday, the Energy Information Administration released a startling report, the Annual Energy Outlook 2014 Early Release. It forecasts tremendous gains in fossil fuel production, as well as overall energy exports, amounting to no less than the continuation of an energy revolution that has emerged as the brightest spot in the U.S. economy. Thousands of jobs are being created as billions of dollars are added to the Gross Domestic Product.

Geopolitical implications of the energy revolution pose tremendous opportunities for our nation to enhance its national security. Increased production coming out of the Bakken and Eagle Ford tight oil plays served to mute the impact of supply disruptions in Iran, Libya, and elsewhere. Dramatic increases in natural gas production in the Marcellus and other regions are providing greater flexibility to American allies in Europe that are dependent on Russia.

I urge you to use the release of the National Security Strategy as an opportunity to share with the American people your view of how this energy revolution is contributing not only to our nation's prosperity, but also to its security.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator

cc: The Honorable Susan Rice, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
The Honorable John Kerry, Secretary of State
The Honorable Chuck Hagel, Secretary of Defense
The Honorable Ernest Moniz, Secretary of Energy