

SCRIPT and FACTS

"POLLY"

Released September 18, 2008

POLLY: *Arrk. Tax breaks for Big Oil. Tax breaks for Big Oil.*

NARRATOR: *Ever wonder why Steve Pearce repeats everything the Big Oil companies say?*

POLLY: *Arrk. Gas prices. Tom Udall's fault.*

NARRATOR: *Tom Udall's fault? While Tom Udall was working for more alternative energy...*

FACT: In Congress, Tom Udall wrote bi-partisan legislation that requires electric suppliers to provide 15 percent of their electricity using alternative energy resources and energy efficiency measure by the year 2020. The amendment passed 220-190. [H.AMDT.748 to HR3221, Vote #827, 8/04/07.] According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), consumers would save \$1.3 billion to \$6.1 billion in lower electricity and natural gas bills cumulatively by 2020. [Union of Concerned Scientists Fact Sheet, "EIA Study: 15 Percent Renewable Electricity Standard Would Save Consumers Money and Reduce Global Warming Pollution."]

FACT: In 2008, Tom Udall voted in favor of the Comprehensive American Energy Security and Consumer Protection Act. The bill would give states the option to allow oil and gas offshore drilling between 50 and 100 miles off the Pacific and Atlantic coasts, except for waters in the Gulf of Mexico off the Florida coast. The federal government could permit drilling from 100 to 200 miles offshore. It stipulates that the federal government would collect all royalties from new oil and gas leases permitted under the bill. It would require utilities to obtain 15 percent of their power from renewable sources by 2020. It also includes roughly \$19 billion in new tax incentives for renewable energy, new coal technologies and alternative-fuel vehicles. [HR 6899, Vote #599, 9/16/08.]

FACT: In 2008, Tom Udall voted for the Renewable Energy and Job Growth Act that would revive or extend about \$55.5 billion in tax breaks for individuals and businesses for one year, including extensions of existing tax credits for solar energy, wind energy, biomass, geothermal energy and certain coal projects. The bill passed 263-160. [CQ Weekly, 5/26/08; Vote 344, 5/21/08.]

FACT: In 2007 Tom Udall voted for the initial version of the House Energy Bill that would have rolled back \$14 billion in subsidies and tax breaks for Big Oil and used the funding to promote renewable energy. The bill invested that money into clean renewable energy, energy efficiency and alternative fuels by shifting certain revenue from royalties and tax incentives for oil and gas companies into a reserve fund. [Vote #40, 1/18/07; New York Times, 1/19/07.]

FACT: In June 2007, Tom Udall voted against a \$102 million reduction in funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. [Vote 509, 6/19/07.]

NARRATOR: *... Steve Pearce voted against alternative energy ...*

FACT: In Congress, Steve Pearce voted against Tom Udall's bi-partisan legislation that requires electric suppliers to provide 15 percent of their electricity using alternative energy resources and energy efficiency measure by the year 2020. The amendment passed 220-190. [H.AMDT.748 to HR 3221, Vote #827, 8/04/07.] According to the U.S.

Energy Information Administration (EIA), consumers would save \$1.3 billion to \$6.1 billion in lower electricity and natural gas bills cumulatively by 2020. [Union of Concerned Scientists Fact Sheet, "EIA Study: 15 Percent Renewable Electricity Standard Would Save Consumers Money and Reduce Global Warming Pollution."]

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FACT: In February 2008, Steve Pearce voted against an \$18 billion tax package "that would rescind a tax break for the five biggest oil companies and use the revenue to boost incentives for wind and solar energy and energy efficiency." The bill would have excluded oil and gas companies from a tax break given to U.S. manufacturers in 2004. The vote came just hours after crude oil hit a record high price of \$102 a barrel. [Vote #84, 2/27/08; Washington Post, 2/28/08.]

FACT: In 2007, Steve Pearce voted against legislation to move the United States toward greater energy independence and security, develop innovative new technologies, reduce carbon emissions, create green jobs, protect consumers, increase clean renewable energy production, and modernize our energy infrastructure. The bill set new efficiency standards for appliances, lighting and buildings, and created new programs to research infrastructure and delivery of alternative fuels. The bill also required oil and natural gas producers who did not pay royalties on leased federal land under existing law to either agree to renegotiate their leases or pay a new fee. The bill passed 241-172. [Vote #832, 8/4/07.]

FACT: In June 2007, Steve Pearce voted to reduce funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy programs by \$102 million. [Vote #509, 6/19/07.]

FACT: In 2005, Steve Pearce voted against making producers of renewable energy eligible for federal grants to build renewable fuel production facilities. [HR 6, H.AMDT.92 Engle Amendment, Vote #125, 4/21/05.]

FACT: In January 2007, Steve Pearce voted against the initial version of the House Energy Bill. The CLEAN Energy Act would have rolled back \$14 billion in subsidies and tax breaks for Big Oil and used the funding to promote renewable energy. The bill invested that money into clean renewable energy, energy efficiency and alternative fuels by shifting certain revenue from royalties and tax incentives from oil and gas companies into a reserve fund. The bill required current offshore fuel producers who are not paying federal royalties to agree to pay royalties when fuel prices reach certain thresholds or pay fees based on how much fuel they produce. The bill would create a new renewable energy account and allow the money to be used to offset the cost of research into alternative energy sources and conservation measures contained in future legislation. [Vote #40, 1/18/07; New York Times, 1/19/07.]

FACT: In 2004, Steve Pearce opposed an amendment to the energy and water funding bill to increase funding for renewable energy sources by \$30 million - 10% more than what the underlying bill provided for solar, wind, biomass,

geothermal and hydrogen renewable energy programs. The increase would have been offset by a decrease in the Advanced Simulation and Computing program. The increase was defeated 150-241. [HR 4614, Vote #321, 6/25/04.]

FACT: In 2005, Steve Pearce voted against an amendment to the Energy Bill that would have required electric utility companies to reduce dependence on non-renewable energy sources. [HR 6, Vote #118, 4/20/05.]

FACT: In 2007, Steve Pearce voted against comprehensive energy legislation that would lead to an increase in automobile fuel-efficiency standards for the first time in 32 years and require increased use of renewable energy sources to generate electricity. Democrats characterized the legislation as "a new direction" in U.S. energy policy away from dependence on fossil fuels. The bill would boost corporate average fuel economy (CAFE) standards by 40 percent, to an industry average of 35 miles per gallon by 2020, the first such action since 1975, when Congress first enacted the federal auto fuel economy requirements. The bill would expand the use of ethanol sevenfold to 36 billion gallons a year by 2022 with 21 billion gallons coming from cellulosic feedstock such as wood chips and prairie grass. [Vote #1140, 12/06/07.]

NARRATOR: ... and to give billions to Big Oil.

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TOM UDALL: *"I'm Tom Udall and I approve this message because we need more oil drilling and alternative energy. But we did find a good use for Steve Pearce's negative ads!"*

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FACT: Tom Udall has voted to call on oil companies to increase domestic oil production on lands they have already leased. [HR 6515, Vote 511, 7/17/2008.]