

Frank Mrvan has joined with Nancy Pelosi in supporting policies that limit American energy production that have made America less energy independent. Now, Hoosiers are paying over \$5 per gallon for gas.

On November 19, 2021, Mrvan and Nancy Pelosi Voted For H.R. 5376, The Build Back Better

Act. (H.R. 5376, [Roll Call Vote #385](#): Passed 220-213: R 0-212, D 220-1, 11/19/21, Mrvan Voted Yea; Pelosi Voted Yea; CQ Summary, Accessed 5/9/22)

- **On November 19, 2021, Mrvan and Pelosi Voted For Tabling A Motion To Reconsider The Vote On The Build Back Better Act.** “McGovern D-Mass., motion to table the Rep. Neal, D-Mass. motion to reconsider the vote on the fiscal 2022 budget reconciliation bill.” (H.R. 5376, [Roll Call Vote #386](#): Motion Agreed To 217-105: R 0-105, D 217-0, 11/19/21, Mrvan Voted Yea; Pelosi Voted Yea; CQ Summary, Accessed 5/9/22)

The Build Back Better Act, as passed by the House on November 19, 2021, imposes a natural gas tax, or methane fee, that could raise costs for American consumers, and cost the American economy as much as \$9.1 billion and as many as 90,000 jobs:

- **The Build Back Better Act would introduce a methane fee that could raise costs for consumers.** “Buried inside the ‘Build Back Better’ plan that cleared the House of Representatives on Friday morning is a new tax on natural gas production that will likely translate into higher heating bills for American households. The new tax is aimed at curbing methane emissions and will apply fees to companies that produce, process, transmit or store oil and natural gas starting in 2023. The specific fees will depend on where the natural gas is produced and will vary depending on how much methane is released into the atmosphere during the process. Overall, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that the new ‘methane fee’ will generate about \$8 billion over the next 10 years. The natural gas industry says that money will end up coming directly out of consumers’ wallets.” (Eric Boehm, “House-Passed ‘Build Back Better’ Plan Aims To Curb Methane Emissions by Hiking Heating Prices,” [Reason](#), 11/19/21)
- **Per the American Petroleum Institute, the methane tax included in the Build Back Better Act could cost the economy as much as “\$9.1 billion and as many as 90,000 jobs.”** “Perhaps most importantly, the tax in the House Energy and Commerce bill will generate significant costs and loss of jobs. The methane tax is a tax on oil and natural gas which could have harmful impacts on America’s economy and jobs. At \$1,500 a ton, the potential cost of the bill’s methane fee to the economy could be as high as \$9.1 billion and as many as 90,000 jobs could be lost.” (American Petroleum Institute, “[Methane Fee Opposition Letter](#),” 9/12/21)
 - **The House approved Build Back Better Act included a fee reaching \$1,500 per ton on methane as of 2025.** “Language approved by the House represents a compromise that would slap a rising fee on excess emissions at oil and gas facilities, reaching \$1,500 per ton in 2025, along with \$775 million in subsidies for

companies that take steps to reduce emissions.” (Matthew Daly, “Dems confident on methane fee as budget bill moves to Senate,” [AP News](#), 11/22/21)

A coalition of energy industries determined that “new fees or taxes on energy companies will raise costs for consumers,” specifically creating a burden for lower-income Americans:

- A coalition of energy industries determined that “new fees or taxes on energy companies will raise costs for consumers,” specifically creating a burden for lower-income Americans. “New fees or taxes on energy companies will raise costs for customers, creating a burden that will fall most heavily on lower-income Americans,” a coalition of energy industries wrote in a letter to congressional leaders in September. “These major new costs most likely will result in higher bills for natural gas customers, including families, small businesses, and power generators.” (Eric Boehm, “House-Passed ‘Build Back Better’ Plan Aims To Curb Methane Emissions by Hiking Heating Prices,” [Reason](#), 11/19/21)

The House passed methane fee has been labelled a “stealth tax” that would impact over 180 million Americans and 5.5 million businesses:

- The House passed methane fee has been labeled as a “stealth tax on natural gas and everyone who uses it.” “It could be a rough winter for energy prices across the U.S., and the Democratic spending plan will make it worse. The House passed what it calls a ‘fee’ on methane that amounts to a stealth tax on natural gas and everyone who uses it.” (Wall Street Journal Editorial Board, “The Stealth Gas-Heating Tax,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 12/9/21)
- The tax on natural gas could be passed along to the “180 million Americans [who] use natural gas to heat homes and run appliances” and the “5.5 million businesses [that] use it to run their workplaces and manufacturing facilities.” “Producers will naturally pass the cost of the tax along to customers. Some 180 million Americans use natural gas to heat homes and run appliances, while some 5.5 million businesses use it to run their workplaces and manufacturing facilities.” (Wall Street Journal Editorial Board, “The Stealth Gas-Heating Tax,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 12/9/21)

The Build Back Better Act, as passed by the House on November 19, 2021, imposes increased energy costs through increased royalties on domestic energy production, blocks previously authorized energy production and future energy exploration, and could increase U.S. dependence on foreign adversaries such as Russia and China:

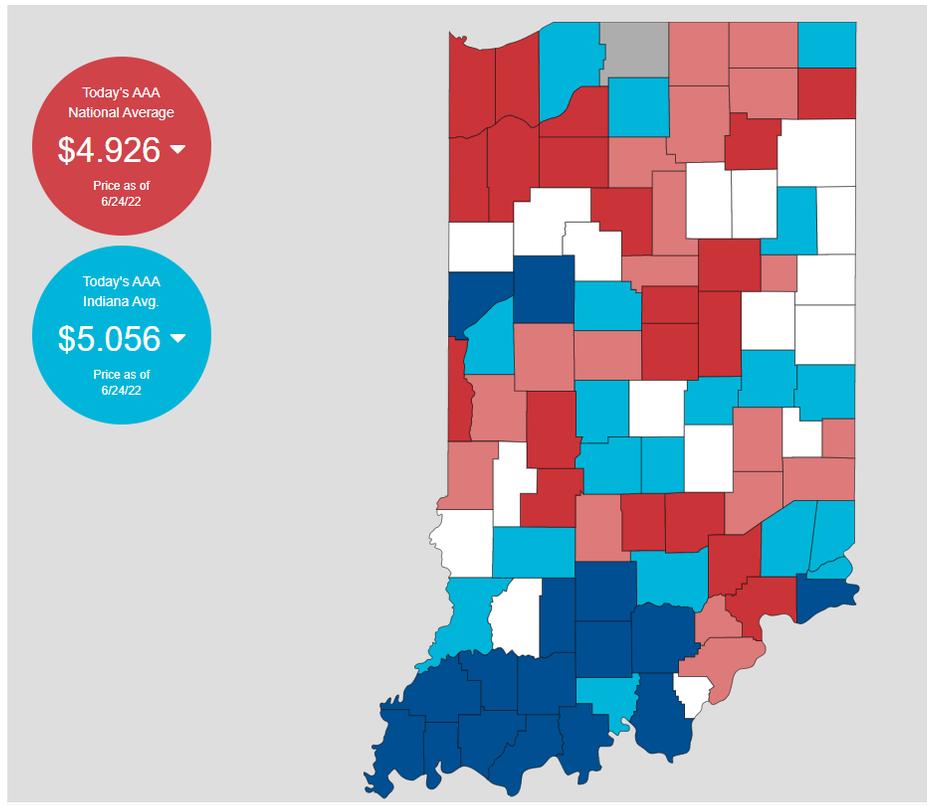
- The Build Back Better Act would raise the royalty rates for all new oil, gas, and coal leases from 12.5% to 20%, and in some cases up to 25%. “In the Build Back Better bill, minimum onshore royalty rates would be increased from 12.5% to 20%, while higher royalty rates of 16.67% would be increased to 25%. Offshore production royalties would be increased across the board from 12.5% to 20%.” (Mark Passwaters, “Biden’s Build Back Better bill would ban drilling offshore Florida, increase royalty rates,” [Upstream Online](#), 11/4/21)
- Build Back Better would restrict the Secretary of the Interior from issuing any lease or authorization for “exploration, development, or production of oil or natural gas” in

specific planning areas. “SEC. 71301. PROTECTION OF THE EASTERN GULF, ATLANTIC, AND PACIFIC COASTS. The Secretary of the Interior may not issue a lease or any other authorization for the exploration, development, or production of oil or natural gas in any of the planning areas on the Outer Continental Shelf in the Pacific Region Planning Areas, in the Atlantic Region Planning Areas, or in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico Planning Area identified on the map entitled ‘Outer Continental Shelf Lower 48 States Planning Areas’ and dated October 18, 2021.” (Rules Committee Print 117-18, “Text of H.R. 5376 Build Back Better Act,” [Page 922](#), 11/3/21)

- **The Build Back Better Act would block previously authorized domestic energy production in Alaska’s Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.** “The law would, if passed, repeal in its entirety the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Oil and Gas Program, cancel any leases issued pursuant to the same section of the related law, and return all payments for leases to the lessees within 30 days of enactment of the act. It also reinstates the prohibition of oil and gas leasing in certain areas of the Outer Continental Shelf, amends on and offshore fossil fuel royalty rates, and changes or introduces other fees related to fossil fuel exploration and development.” (Beth Verge, “Biden administration takes aim at ANWR in Build Back Better Act,” [Alaska’s News Source](#), 10/29/21)
- **The Build Back Better Act would also block future domestic energy exploration efforts in the eastern Gulf of Mexico, and in areas off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.** “The measure is part of the bill’s climate-related issues and would permanently ban leasing of areas set off limits by the Gulf of Mexico Security Act of 2006, which includes the eastern Gulf of Mexico. It would also ban drilling in areas off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts currently off limits in the 2017-2022 leasing programme.” (Mark Passwaters, “Biden’s Build Back Better bill would ban drilling offshore Florida, increase royalty rates,” [Upstream Online](#), 11/4/21)
- **“In fact, the proposed methane fee alone will disincentivize domestic producers of traditional energy, add burdensome costs, and raise prices for everyday Americans while increasing our dependence on foreign adversaries for our energy needs, putting our national security at risk.”** (AAPL, “AAPL President James T. Devlin, CPL, Delivers Letter to U.S. Senators on Build Back Better Act,” [Blog](#), 12/1/21)

As of June 24, 2022, Hoosiers are paying over \$5/gallon at the pump:

- **Hoosiers are paying over \$5/gallon for gas at the pump, which is a record for the state.**



(Gas Prices, [AAA](#), Accessed 6/24/2022)

- When gas had cost \$4.522 in mid-May 2022, AAA said it was the highest price recorded in Indiana. “AAA lists the \$4.522 price as the “highest recorded average price” for a gallon of regular unleaded in Indiana.” (Izzy Karpinski, “Indiana gas price reaches all-time high; Just a fraction of a cent less than national average,” [Fox59](#), 5/17/2022)