

# STATEMENT

*In Congress, Susan Wild voted for radical policies including raising taxes on natural gas, a key energy source in PA. This has driven up energy costs as much as 20% for families and cost American workers hundreds of thousands of jobs*

## **Verification**

### **Build Back Better**

#### **Wild Voted For The Build Back Better Act**

**On November 19, 2021, Wild Voted For H.R. 5376, The Build Back Better Act.** (H.R. 5376, [Roll Call #385](#), Passed 220-213; R 0-212, D 220-1, Wild Voted Yea, 11/19/21)

#### **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)

## **In August 2022, Wild Voted For The Inflation Reduction Act, Claiming It Would Bring Down Inflation, Which Even Joe Biden Admitted Had Little To Do With Reducing Then-Record Inflation**

### **VIDEO: Susan Wild Claimed The Inflation Reduction Act Would Bring Down Inflation.**

“Hi everybody, it’s Friday afternoon, and I am very excited to report that we have just passed the Inflation Reduction Act. I was proud to vote on this bill that is going to make such a difference in people’s lives. Not only is it going to help to bring down inflation, but it is going to cut costs for our senior citizens and everybody who is in need of prescription drugs at any time.” (Susan Wild, [Twitter Video](#), 8/12/22)

**On August 12, 2022, Wild Voted For H.R. 5376, The Inflation Reduction Act.** (H.R. 5376, [Roll Call #420](#), Passed 220-207, R: 0-207, D: 220-0, Wild Voted YEA, 8/12/22)

**Joe Biden Admitted The Legislation Had Little To Do With Reducing Then-Record Inflation.** “President Biden admitted Thursday that Democrats’ signature Inflation Reduction Act wasn’t as much about actually reducing the then-record-high inflation facing the nation as he originally touted to the American people.” (Brandon Gillespie, “Biden Admits Inflation Reduction Act Had ‘Less To Do With Reducing Inflation’ Than He Originally Said,” [Fox News](#), 8/10/23)

- “I wish I hadn’t called it that. It has less to do with reducing inflation than it does providing for alternatives that generate economic growth,’ Biden said during an appearance at a campaign fundraiser in Park City, Utah according to the press pool report.” (Brandon Gillespie, “Biden Admits Inflation Reduction Act Had ‘Less To Do With Reducing Inflation’ Than He Originally Said,” [Fox News](#), 8/10/23)

## **Inflation Reduction Act**

### **The Inflation Reduction Act Created A New Natural Gas Tax That Could Have Increased Consumers’ Bills To Cook, Heat Their Homes And Run Appliances By Nearly 20 Percent**

**The IRA Creates A Methane Emissions Reduction Program That Imposes A New Natural Gas Tax On U.S. Oil And Natural Gas Companies.** “The IRA creates a so-called Methane Emissions Reduction Program that imposes a new natural gas tax on U.S. oil and natural gas companies. The fee starts at \$900 per ton in 2024 and escalates to \$1,500 per ton in 2026. This provision would impose new total costs of more than \$6 billion on U.S. energy companies.” (“The Energy Crisis Is Real – Is The Inflation Reduction Act A Realistic Answer?,” [API](#), Accessed: 8/9/22)

- **The Fee Starts At \$900 Per Ton In 2024 And Escalates To \$1,500 Per Ton In 2026. This Provision Would Impose New Total Costs Of More Than \$6 Billion On U.S. Energy Companies.** (“The Energy Crisis Is Real – Is The Inflation Reduction Act A Realistic Answer?,” [API](#), Accessed: 8/9/22)

**The IRA Imposes A Royalty Tax On All Extruded Methane.** “In Section 50263, the IRA also imposes a new royalty on all extracted methane. Expanding the scope of existing royalties for such emissions, on top of the natural gas tax, would add even more costs to production at a time when the U.S. needs more energy supply to help provide relief for American families and businesses. This legislation applies new costs on top of new costs, which will be counterproductive to the shared goal of providing additional energy to meet demand while driving down emissions.” (“The Energy Crisis Is Real – Is The Inflation Reduction Act A Realistic Answer?,” [API](#), Accessed: 8/9/22)

**A Similar Methane Tax Would Increase Rates For Natural Gas And Electricity Customers, Including Families, Small Businesses And Power Generators.** “The methane fee, if enacted, would likely necessitate rate increases for natural gas and electricity customers, including families, small businesses and power generators. In one scenario the industry looked at, such a fee could result in the average customer seeing an approximate increase of 17% in their natural gas bill, or over \$100 per year for the average American family.” (Eric Knott Op-Ed, “Call A ‘Methane Fee’ What It Is: A Tax That’ll Sock Anyone Who Uses Natural Gas,” [The Arizona Republic](#), 9/22/21)

**According To CRS, The Methane Tax In IRA Is “Nearly Identical” To The Methane Emissions Charge In Build Back Better.** “On July 27, 2022, the Senate Majority Leader

announced and released a draft proposal of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA; H.R. 5376), stating that legislative text would be included in the budget reconciliation bill. Among other provisions, IRA would include a charge on methane emissions that is nearly identical to the methane emissions charge in the House version of H.R. 5376, often referred to as the Build Back Better Act, which passed the House on November 19, 2021. Methane (or CH<sub>4</sub>) is the primary component of natural gas.” (“Inflation Reduction Act,” [Congressional Research Service](#), 8/4/22)