



## Press Release

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# *New Report Shows Washington How to Eliminate \$750 Billion Annual Trade Deficit*

**New York, NY: More than two-thirds of America's \$750 billion annual deficit can be eliminated if the Obama administration and Congress follow three simple steps to increase oil and gas exports, a new Manhattan Institute report finds.**

On Tuesday, May 21, 2013, the Manhattan Institute's Power and Growth Initiative released a new report, [\*The Case for Exports: America's Hydrocarbon Industry Can Revive the Economy and Eliminate the Trade Deficit\*](#), by senior fellow **Mark Mills**. In this, the third in a series of papers for the Power and Growth Initiative, Mills outlines steps the Obama administration must take to foster hydrocarbon exports and keep the American energy renaissance from stumbling.

**To ensure and accelerate all the economic, employment, and geopolitical benefits from America's hydrocarbon capabilities, the U.S. government should immediately:**

1. Approve any and all qualified entities seeking to export natural gas;
2. Approve the Keystone XL pipeline, allowing Canadian crude to replace Venezuelan imports; and
3. Direct the Department of Commerce to approve any application to export crude oil, which is illegal under current law.

**Then the Obama administration and Congress should work together to do everything possible to:**

1. Encourage private domestic and foreign investment in hydrocarbons; and
2. Open up greater access to hydrocarbon resources on federal lands, where 85 percent of offshore—and half of onshore—territory remains off-limits.

**Finally, Congress should:**

1. Pursue twenty-first-century omnibus energy legislation, starting with a clean slate;
2. Repeal the authority of the Departments of Energy and Commerce over hydrocarbon exports to open up a free market consistent with historical trade principles; and
3. Restructure federal energy priorities away from funding commercial projects, focusing instead on basic R&D.

**To obtain a copy of the report, contact Matthew J. Olsen at 646-839-3352 or by email at [molsen@manhattan-institute.org](mailto:molsen@manhattan-institute.org)**

**The Power and Growth Initiative** at the Manhattan Institute is focused on increasing public understanding of North America's abundant energy resources and encouraging public policies that will allow the United States to harness the benefits—for our economy and for our influence in the world—of that abundance. This effort springs from a new energy reality: technology has unlocked our vast resources of natural gas, oil, and coal for both domestic use as well as export, and can create millions of new jobs while providing affordable energy to the world.

In the first report of the series, [\*Unleashing the North American Energy Colossus: Hydrocarbons Can Fuel Growth and Prosperity\*](#), Mark Mills argues that developing the full potential of our vast hydrocarbon resources could generate trillions of dollars in revenues, as well as millions of new jobs. More, it could reset the geopolitical landscape with the United States as the world's leading energy exporter.

In the second report, [\*Liberating the Energy Economy: What Washington Must Do\*](#), Mills describes specific policy steps which can be taken to accelerate the development of our energy resources. In this paper, Mills, who served on the staff of the Office of the White House Science Advisor during the Reagan Administration, identifies specific steps aimed at realizing the 3 to 5 million high-paying jobs and \$3 to \$7 trillion of economic benefits to our economy that tapping the nation's newly accessible energy resources can make possible.

**Mark P. Mills** is an senior fellow of the Manhattan Institute, coauthor of *The Bottomless*, and founder and CEO of the Digital Power Group, a tech-centric capital advisory group. He was formerly the co-founder and chief tech strategist for Digital Power Capital, a boutique venture fund. He co-founded and served as Chairman and CTO of ICx Technologies helping take it public in a 2007 IPO. Mark is a member of the Advisory Council of the McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science at Northwestern University, and serves on the Board of Directors of the Marshall Institute.

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