The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PENCE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MCDERMOTT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

PASS ENERGY BILL NOW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I think back, somewhat romantically, to when I turned 16, got my driver's license, and my dad let me drive that 1970 rusted-out brown station wagon to Northwest High School in Omaha, Nebraska. I have a not-so-romantic memory of that 1970 station wagon, waiting in line on Fort Street in a line about two blocks long to get gas, and wondering if those who remember that second oil crisis in the late 1970s, around 1977, if you share this memory too of waiting in lines blocks long to pull up to the gas pump, wondering if when you get up there, there is not going to be that white piece of notebook paper up there saying ''out of gas.'' And gas prices doubled and tripled.

Well, since those days in the 1970s, we were about 35 percent dependent on foreign oil; and as we stand here tonight in this Chamber, we are about 58 percent dependent on foreign oil for our energy needs in this country. When we look at those last 20 and 30 years and we see how our economy is growing and has grown, mirrored to that is our energy needs and use in this country. Our energy sector represents 300 billion, a 300 billion piece of the American economy, and it is that that powers America and powers our economy.

Now, I remembered or thought back to that oil crisis in the late 1970s, but there are a lot of people that just have to remember back to last year when oil prices reached record highs of $40 per barrel. In Omaha, Nebraska, we were seeing gas stations with $2-plus per gallon cost for gasoline.

Now, a lot of people that rely on natural gas to heat their homes in the winter saw a nearly 60 percent increase in natural gas. For electrical generation, most peaking plants and a lot of new generation plants rely on natural gas, so that 60 percent increase in natural gas is certainly passed on to the consumers.

Here is just a couple of interesting facts about what our future holds in America and how we are going to power ourselves and our economy. The U.S. energy use has increased by 33 percent over those last 30 years that I mentioned, while domestic energy production has increased 12 percent. America now imports, as I said, 58 percent, and that is expected to grow as high as 75 percent by 2010 to 2015. The Department of Energy expects that by the year 2020, the U.S. energy consumption will increase 50 percent for natural gas, 45 percent for electricity, 35 percent for petroleum, and 22 percent for coal.

Mr. Speaker, we face an incredibly important issue for this country. There is not a person listening here that does not understand the impact of energy on how we do business in America, how we work with our families in our homes, but also how it impacts foreign policy decisions. I think there is probably a lot of us in this House that would love to diminish our dependence on Saudi Arabian oil. Just our imaginations can run wild with how that may free a great deal of our foreign policy. But yet, as I stand here tonight, we have a problem in the United States Congress between two chairmen whose bickering refuses to pass out of conference an energy bill.

See, back in June and July, this House did its business and passed a very comprehensive energy bill that I thought dealt appropriately with our current needs and future demands. Likewise, the Senate had difficulty passing their bill and took up last session's bill, put it on the floor to get it to conference. And I am very disturbed that we cannot get that bill accomplished. I certainly encourage our House leadership to take control of that conference, the Senate leadership to take control of that conference and get it done. This is too important for our Nation to allow pettiness to deteriorate progress to this point so that we cannot pass a bill.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SHUSTER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. CORRINE BROWN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MALONEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. STRICKLAND addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE DISMANTLEMENT OF OUR MANUFACTURING AND ECONOMIC BASE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 30 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this evening I would like to address the issue of the economy in our country and the dismantling of our manufacturing and economic base.

President Bush owns the worst record of job creation since the Presidency of Herbert Hoover. More than 3.2 million Americans have lost their jobs since this President was installed in office.

The Bush administration's destruction of jobs across our country indeed has spread like wildfire. From Massachusetts to the Carolinas, from the Midwest to California. Now, they have even tried to take away our overtime pay. Isn't enough enough?

Accelerating job loss under this administration is the norm, not the exception. Indeed, in less than 3 years the Republicans have lost 3.2 million jobs and at the same time added $3.3 trillion to our national debt. Today 9 million of our citizens are out of work and cannot find a job.

The gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOOLEY) has a discharge petition in this House, so that we can extend unemployment benefits to those who simply cannot find work inside the boundaries of this country. That bill should not require a discharge petition. It should come to this floor immediately because it is necessary for those who will lose their benefits by the end of this year.

President Bush has the worst record of job creation, actually he has created no new net jobs, of any President since Herbert Hoover during the great depression. Every President since World War II has created jobs but for this President.

This year, the United States is going to lose more manufacturing jobs. It will mark job loss in the manufacturing sector every single year of his Presidency. And if you look at the accelerating loss of manufacturing jobs, this has never happened since World War II in our country. We have lost 2.5 million manufacturing jobs.

The Great Lakes States are being hollowed out in the steel industry, in