fact that a majority of Hmong adults are un-
able to speak English. The result is that many
Hmong adults are unable to hold higher pay-
ing jobs.

Hmong youth are constantly challenged due
to the difficulties of social assimilation, lost
opportunities and juvenile crime temptations. The
Hmong Youth Foundation seeks to give every
child the opportunity to succeed and overcome
negative obstacles. The Foundation pursues
every avenue available through collaboration
with other Hmong and Southeast refugee self-
help organizations, as well as non-Asian agen-
cies. The response has been very positive, as
the Foundation does not duplicate any existing
service provider’s intent.

Hmong students in Fresno County have ex-
celled in academic excellence and thus, have
received many accolades. Among them are an-
nual Hmong valedictorians in the Fresno
and Clovis Unified School Districts. The
Hmong Youth Foundation does its best to help
as many students as possible so that even great-
er success will follow.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Hmong
Youth Foundation for its service to the com-

community. I urge my colleagues to join me in
wishing the foundation many more years of
continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
EXPANSION OF CALPINE

HON. DOUG OSE
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join
with the people of California’s 3rd Congres-
sional district to support the expansion of the
Calpine Sutter Power Plant, a long-standing
business in Sutter County.

Sutter County, situated just north of Sac-
ramento between the Sacramento and Feather
Rivers, has access to three state universities,
a major metropolitan airport, the State Capitol,
and recreational areas of the Sierra Mountain
Range. However, with double-digit unemploy-
ment, a local economy almost solely depend-
ent on agriculture, the lack of adequate power,
and the annual danger of flooding in the upper
Sacramento Valley, Sutter County also faces
many challenges.

Today, Sutter County is celebrating the
groundbreaking of Calpine’s new plant site,
which will increase its property tax base by at
least $30 million. The new plant will provide
clean, low-cost power for economic develop-
ment, employ up to 250 construction workers
for twenty months, create at least twenty new
family-wage, full-time jobs, and provide signif-
ificant revenues to local businesses.

Additionally, Calpine has proposed a 10-
year, $2.5 million private funding program for
improving levees and storm drainage facilities
in Sutter County. The funds will be distributed
directly to the Sutter County Water Agency
and the County Flood Control and Water Con-
servation District, which will have final author-
ity over how the funds are spent.

I commend Calpine and people of Sutter
County for their commitment and investment in
their community through new jobs, increased

SERBS DESERVE PROTECTION IN KOSOVO

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I
am outraged by the killing of 14 Serbs last Fri-
day near the town of Gracko in Kosovo. The
culpits of this crime are, in my view, prime can-
didates for midterms for crimes against humanity by the International
Tribunal which is located in The Hague. I certainly
hope that the efforts of KFOR, the Organiza-
tion for Security and Cooperation in Europe
(OSCE), and Tribunal investigators will help
identify and immediately apprehend those re-
sponsible for this crime.

The killings, however, are no isolated inci-
dent. Since NATO air strikes ended, the Serb
forces have retreated, and the Kosovar refu-
gees have begun to return to their homes,
whose Serb civilians who chose to remain in
the region have repeatedly been subjected to
violent retribution. Certainly a Kosovo which is
ethnically cleansed of Serbs—and, according
to reports, cleansed of Roma as well—is not
the kind of Kosovo for which the international
community undertook such a risky and costly
intervention. Kosovo must pursue the path of
rule by law not by lawlessness, and respect
for and protection of basic human freedoms—
including life itself.

A related disturbing trend is the attempt by
leaders of the Kosovo Liberation Army—the
KLA—to fill the political vacuum created now
that Serbian authorities have departed
Kosovo. The KLA has yet to prove its demo-
cratic credentials; in many instances, its tac-
tics have sent the opposite message. Mr.
Speaker, before the KLA is granted any role in
Kosovo’s interim administration, it must prove
itself. Helping to find those responsible for this
latest atrocity would be a good place to start.
Nationalist Kosovar Albanians can not hide
behind the past victimization of their people by
Milosevic and his forces, those responsible for
these actions taken against Serbs and their
property in Kosovo must be held accountable.
Neither can they relegate responsibility for
stopping these incidents to the international
community alone.

The international community must make
clear to all Kosovo Albanian leaders that their
actions now will go a long way in determining
what kind of support they will find for their own
aspirations down the road. The benefits of en-
hanced political status for Kosovo cannot be
enjoyed without also undertaking the respon-
sibilities of democratic governance.

HON. RON KIND
OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay
tribute to the Upper Mississippi River National
Wildlife and Fish Refuge on the occasion of its
75th Anniversary.
The Upper Mississippi River National Wild-
life and Fish Refuge is very important to the
heritage and environmental conservation ef-
forts of the Midwest. The refuge’s mission is to
provide public benefits associated with fish,
wildlife, and wild areas by reserving the Upper
Mississippi flood plain ecosystem for the en-
joyment and use of this and future genera-
tions. For the past 75 years the Upper Mis-
sissippi River National Wildlife and Fish Ref-
uge has provided essential habitat for a wide
variety of plants, fish, migratory birds, and
other animals.

As a boy growing up on the north side of
LaCrosse near the Mississippi River, I devel-
oped a special connection to the river. My
fond memories of past camping trips on the
river’s sand bars and fishing with my friends
have helped me to see first hand the impor-
tance of responsible stewardship. These boy-
hood impressions of the river have inspired me
to work to protect the Great Mississippi
from environmental damage.

As one of the four co-chairmen of the Upper
Mississippi River Congressional Task Force
(UMRTF), I have had an opportunity to effec-
tively address stewardship issues pertinent to
the Upper Mississippi River and adjacent
lands. With the help of the UMRTF, attention
has successfully been focused on the impor-
tance of refugees in the Upper Mississippi
River Basin and their needs.

In recent years, the refugees have been
asked to do more and more with less and less
funding. Although the refugees have received
added responsibilities, funding for mainte-
nance, habitat restoration and outreach have
all faced budget shortfalls. The Upper Mis-
sissippi Refuge currently lacks a full-time ref-
ge manager. Although the master plan for
the refuge calls for 60 staff members, only 28
staff are currently employed. With the aid of
the Task Force, I am working to address this
problem.

As a direct result of UMRTF efforts, the U.S.
Fish and Wildlife Service will increase refuge
maintenance funding for the Upper Mississippi
River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, and
the Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge by $1
million in fiscal year 1999. In the future, the
Task Force will continue to focus attention on
these refuges and the key roles they fill in pro-
viding essential habitat for a wide variety of
plants, fish migratory birds and other animals.

The Mississippi River is truly an environ-
mental treasure. The Upper Mississippi refuge
system plays a crucial role in protecting this
national treasure so that current and future
generations can enjoy the same environ-
mental, recreational and economic benefits
that we have enjoyed in the past.