

Harkin	Lugar	Sarbanes
Hatch	Martinez	Sessions
Hutchison	McConnell	Smith
Inhofe	Mikulski	Snowe
Inouye	Murray	Stabenow
Isakson	Nelson (FL)	Talent
Johnson	Nelson (NE)	Thomas
Kerry	Obama	Thune
Kohl	Pryor	Vitter
Landrieu	Reid	Voinovich
Levin	Roberts	
Lincoln	Salazar	

NAYS—26

Alexander	Gregg	Rockefeller
Allard	Kennedy	Santorum
Boxer	Kyl	Schumer
Clinton	Lautenberg	Shelby
Coburn	Leahy	Specter
Corzine	Lieberman	Sununu
DeMint	Lott	Warner
Ensign	McCain	Wyden
Feinstein	Reed	

NOT VOTING—4

Crapo	Murkowski
Jeffords	Stevens

The amendment (No. 779), as modified, was agreed to.

Mr. DOMENICI. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. SUNUNU. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 12:30 p.m. having arrived, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, at 12:30 p.m., the Senate recessed until 2:18 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. SUNUNU).

ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005—
Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico is recognized.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I note the presence of the distinguished Senator from Washington, Ms. CANTWELL, on the floor. We have agreed heretofore that her amendment would now be the subject matter before the Senate. I understand the Senator is prepared to offer it.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, yes.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, may we have a copy of the final draft of the amendment?

Ms. CANTWELL. Yes, we will send the amendment to the desk.

Mr. DOMENICI. We have it. I wonder if we can discuss what the Senator's pleasure is. We have nothing else pending but her amendment for at least a couple of hours or more. How much time does the Senator think she might need?

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I know there are many colleagues who want to talk on this issue. I do not know how many members on the other side of the aisle want to speak. I would think we can dispose of this within a couple of hours. That would be my guess.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, we will not set a specific time, but let's talk about a couple of hours. I gather that the Senator would not need all that time continuously, if somebody desired to speak. I ask the Chair to recognize the Senator to answer my question.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. That is correct. I think we will start the debate on the Cantwell amendment, and if other Members want to address that or other issues, we are happy for them to come down and address those issues as the afternoon progresses.

Mr. DOMENICI. It is the understanding—and I hope Senator CANTWELL would comply—that there will not be any other subject matter come up. I ask unanimous consent that no other amendments be in order while this discussion is taking place, other than discussing the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, having said that, Senators on our side have heard we will be on this amendment for 2 hours, probably longer. If any of my colleagues desire to come down and debate the issue, I would very much appreciate them letting us know or, in fact, come to the floor and we will arrange for them to speak.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I thank the chairman of the Energy Committee for his participation and help in clarifying this next segment of debate on the Energy bill. While I think we have several issues left to discuss, I think it is very important to realize what a milestone we have achieved. After a couple of sessions of the Senate trying to get energy legislation, we are now on the precipice of having an energy bill that has great bipartisan support.

I compliment the chairman of the Energy Committee for his hard work and diligence in getting an energy bill that has such great bipartisan support. As a member of the Energy Committee and as a relatively new Member of the Senate, I can tell you how honored I was that Senator DOMENICI visited me in my office to talk about the issues impacting the Northwest—because we have been hard hit by an energy crisis in the last several years—and his willingness to work with my office on those Northwest issues, particularly related to the hydro system.

I can say with certainty that just about every member of the Senate Energy Committee participated in the

markup of this legislation by getting ideas and concepts into the Energy bill. While each of us have different perspectives because we represent different regions of the country, people should realize that getting an energy bill is a very important step forward in our Nation.

I contrast that to the House version. The House version reminds me of where we were in the Senate version 2 years ago, except for the House version just kept going in the wrong direction. It basically has what I call "gratuitous special interest deals" relating to groundwater pollutants. This includes letting MTBE manufacturers off the hook from their liability, something I know the Presiding Officer has concerns about. The House bill also has rollbacks of the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. I think these are bad precedents to set.

I am trying to bring attention to the fact that the product we are starting with in the Senate is good legislation. The next week and a half will probably make this legislation even better, as Members who are not on the committee bring up issues, some of which, Members who are on the committee left to be discussed by all the Members on the Senate floor.

Something of particular importance to the Northwest is the electricity title in this legislation. Establishing the electricity title was a very meaningful step toward responding to the scandalous Enron crisis and the unethical practices of market manipulation. We are really getting tough on energy traders and executives who perpetrate the kinds of abuses that we saw in the western energy market. We are sending a message to those industries and businesses that the consumer will not provide the deep pocket for Enron kinds of bankruptcies.

I am grateful to the chairman and the ranking member from New Mexico for their hard work on this legislation. There was a great irony taking place the moment the Senate was about to make a decision on changing the filibuster rules. Members of both sides of the aisle and all their staffs were hard at work marking up a very comprehensive energy bill in a very bipartisan fashion. If people were there, they would have realized it was the Senate at its best doing its best work.

There are still outstanding issues that we decided we were going to bring to the Senate floor. Some of those issues were related to a variety of concerns that we thought were best addressed on the Senate floor. One of the issues that I think is important to bring up is my amendment on energy security. It is an amendment that will set a national goal for getting off our overdependence on foreign sources of oil. I am pleased to be able to offer that amendment with Senators DURBIN, SALAZAR, and KERRY because it is important that energy independence be