

sparsely populated but has so much potential for our future. This wind farm in Prowers County is part of an effort in our State whereby, at the end of 2008, we project we will be producing over 1,000 megawatts of power from wind in Colorado. That is the equivalent of the amount of electricity produced by three coal-fired powerplants, and we have been able to do that in a period of 2 years.

We planted the seeds for these kinds of projects in the 2005 Energy Policy Act and in the Energy bills we passed earlier this year, which I hope we get to refurbish and pass again in the next several days. But the farm bill is also part of that.

The 2007 farm bill takes the next step by helping farmers and ranchers deploy the renewable energy technologies that have been developed in lots of places around our country, including the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden, CO.

With the \$1.3 billion that this bill devotes to energy programs, farmers will be able to apply for grants to develop biorefineries and to improve the handling, harvest, transport, and storage of feedstocks for biofuels. The bill includes tax credits for small wind turbines and cellulosic biofuel production. And it stimulates research into the methods and technologies that will allow the most productive lands in the world to provide more and more of our energy. The farm bill, in title IX, shows us how rural America will help us grow our way to energy independence.

Reducing our dependence upon foreign oil will be the central national security, environmental security, and economic security challenge for all of us in the coming decades. It is also a tremendous opportunity.

The country that successfully replaces its imports of foreign oil with clean home-grown energy will reap competitive and technological advantages that will keep it out front in the world for decades to come.

Mr. President, it is time to put the interests of rural America before the politics of obstructionism. I urge my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, to find a way forward in which we can narrow the number of amendments that have been filed on this legislation, so that under the leadership of Senator HARKIN and Senator CHAMBLISS we can have an opportunity to vote on a final farm bill as part of the Christmas present that we should be delivering to the American people. It is my hope that, as we move forward on the farm bill, we move forward with equal fervor in having the Energy bill concluded, which is now on its way to passage in the House of Representatives.

I yield the floor.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, morning business is closed.

UNITED STATES-PERU TRADE PROMOTION AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3688, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3688) to implement the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, is the business of the Senate at this point the Peruvian Free Trade Agreement?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Yes.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I am going to speak about that subject, and I will confess, as I start, that the old admonition never argue with someone who buys ink by the barrel is something I should have learned long ago. I take issue with a company that buys ink by the tanker truck: the Washington Post.

Speaking of trade, the Washington Post described, I think, why there is not so much of a thoughtful debate about trade as there is a thoughtless debate about it. In this editorial, they say this about trade in an attempt to criticize some of those who are running for President and are distancing themselves from the brand of free trade. What the Washington Post says is that a candidate said the following quote:

NAFTA was a mistake to the extent that it did not deliver what we had hoped it would, and that is why I call for a trade time out.

One candidate said NAFTA was a mistake, and they quoted the candidate saying it. The Washington Post says:

Such demagoguery.

So it is now demagoguery for a candidate for President to allege that a trade agreement was a mistake. That is demagoguery? I don't quite understand the Washington Post. The Washington Post says that NAFTA didn't cause the current U.S. trade deficit with Mexico. Really? That is an interesting conclusion, with no facts to support it. There are no facts to support that conclusion.

I think I will show a chart that shows what has happened to our trade with Mexico since the North American Free Trade Agreement, NAFTA, was signed. The evidence is pretty substantial

about what happened with our trade between the United States and Mexico: Just prior to negotiating a free trade agreement with Mexico, we had a very small surplus with the country of Mexico of \$1.5 billion. Now, last year, it went from a very small surplus to a \$65 billion deficit. The Washington Post says—about a candidate that said NAFTA was a mistake—that is demagoguery. Give us a break. It is not demagoguery to suggest that something doesn't work when we have gone from a \$1.5 billion trade surplus to a \$65 billion deficit.

The Washington Post also says that the agreements contributed marginally to the shifting of workers from some less competitive sectors to others. That is arcane language to describe what happened. After NAFTA, the three largest imports from Mexico to the United States are automobiles, automobile parts, and electronics. The contention was made by those who supported NAFTA that this would only mean the migration of low-skill, low-income work to Mexico. It didn't happen quite that way. Automobiles, automobile parts, and electronics represent the products of high-skill labor in this country, and those jobs have been lost.

I only wished to point out that the Washington Post described for us today why this debate about trade has largely been thoughtless. Yes, it is a global economy, I understand that. There are many faces to the global economy—some very attractive and some not so attractive. I will try to describe them both today. The global economy has galloped forward at a very aggressive pace, but the rules have not kept pace. So the result is we have some very significant problems and dislocations. We are drowning in trade debt in this country, and I will describe that.

What is before us is another free trade agreement, the free trade agreement with Peru. Let me say that I can count votes. I understand what will happen in this Chamber. The Senate will support and vote for the free trade agreement with Peru.

I maintain again today that I am not going to vote for additional free trade agreements until benchmarks are attached and there is accountability for those benchmarks. Had we had benchmarks in the NAFTA, we would not have gone from a \$1.5 billion surplus to a \$65 billion deficit. We would have, at some point, said, wait a second, something is happening that is not right for our country.

First of all, I don't think we should be signing new trade agreements until we fix some of the fundamental problems in the old agreements. Two, I believe that the Peru agreement represents an expansion of a failed model. It has failed before and will fail again. And, No. 3, I don't think it contains—I know it doesn't contain any benchmarks or accountability or a mechanism for withdrawal should the trade agreement fail at least relative to what we expect the trade agreement to accomplish.