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Talkin' the Bakken

SENATOR GETS CRUDE ON OIL EXPORTS



FNS Photo by Michael Vosburg

Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D., speaks March 19, 2014, in Fargo, N.D. The senator has become a staunch proponent of exporting American crude oil.

North Dakota's Heitkamp pushing for lift of ban on domestic crude exports

FARGO

Crude oil exports are one of the hottest topics in energy today. Many experts predicted this would be the leading topic in 2015, and thus far, it is an early frontrunner for Energy Issue of the Year. Recently, Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D., spoke out against a policy she publicly stated the restrictions on crude oil is "wrong, wrong, wrong on so many levels."

Heitkamp believes the limitations on exportations is a policy stemming from the Richard Nixon administration in response to a number of producers going around oil price support controls.

"This is a 1970s policy," Heitkamp said. "Unfortunately when we transitioned away from price supports for crude oil, we never removed this restriction. That was a mistake at this time and it continues to be a colossal mistake for our growth towards energy independence in this country and our ability to use our energy and our oil for soft power."

She explained the broad phrase "soft power" by indicating the opening of oil exports will create a consistent supply of



Jason Spiess
For The Drill

crude oil to the United States' allies so they do not have to do business with terrorist groups or frictional countries like Iran and Russia.

"It is critically important that we examine some of the concerns I think that people have about lifting the embargo," Heitkamp said. "Obviously North Dakota, we don't see any logic because we are kind of a common-sense state. We don't see any logic behind not allowing crude oil to be exported, but allowing every refined product that we could produce in this country access to a foreign market. That makes absolutely no sense."

SPIESS/A6

Heitkamp, Murkowski introduce second bill to lift oil export ban

Forum News Service

WASHINGTON — Senators Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D., and Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, introduced legislation May 19 to complement a bill they introduced last week to help lift the 1970s-era ban on exporting American crude oil.

The new bill aims to end the ban while clarifying some key pieces of the initial legislation, Heitkamp's office stated in a news release.

The intent is that the new bill will be referred to the Senate Committee on Bank-

ing, on which Heitkamp serves, and later merged with the initial legislation.

The new bill goes line-by-line through federal law to strike any reference to the ban. It also would clearly define the president's authority to limit future crude exports and ensure that lifting the ban would not hurt domestic interests, the release stated.

U.S. Sens. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., and Bob Corker, R-Tenn., also are sponsoring the bill, called the American Crude Oil Export Equality Act.



FNS Photo by Andrew Wernette

Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis economist Rob Grunewald speaks at the Bakken Researchers Convening on May 19. Grunewald helped organize the event, which featured work by academics from North Dakota and neighboring states.

Researching the Bakken

Academic gathering highlights Bakken region's social and economic trends; DSU, UND among universities represented at convention

By Andrew Wernette
Forum News Service

DICKINSON — Subjects such as resident attitudes toward hydraulic fracking and the labor market impacts of energy boom-and-bust cycles were the focus of Dickinson State University's Bakken Researchers Convening, which was held May 19 and 20 at the Strom Center.

Rob Grunewald, an economist for the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, is hosting the event and said he hoped the convention will elaborate on some pertinent issues the Bakken energy industry produced, such as the impact on public infrastructure, demand for government and social services, and local income and wealth.

"Part of this is because this is a unique economic phenomenon to have so much growth so quickly," Grunewald said.

The two-day convention centered on topics including field work issues and research challenges in the Bakken region. It brought together academics from North Dakota, Montana, South Dakota and Minnesota to showcase their research on the Bakken region, varying from economics and sociology to geography. DSU, the University of North Dakota, University of Minnesota and Montana State University-Billings were among the institutions represented at the convention.

Posters describing the research work of the different universities were set up around the room for attendees to view.

Grunewald said the Federal Reserve Bank noticed there was a lot of research from different institutions happening in the Bakken area and

BAKKEN/A4

FEATURED WESTERN NORTH DAKOTA AUCTIONS

Machinery Auction

Tractors, Farm and Hay Equipment

Thursday, June 4, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

Location: ON SITE: 8475 40th St SW - Richardton, ND

This machinery auction features very nice tractors, farm and hay equipment, vehicles and trailers, and so much more!

OWNER: Duane Boehm Estate

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Saturday, June 13, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

Location: ON SITE: 9515 104th St NW - Columbus, ND

Featuring a variety of household items including kitchen, utility, décor & antiques. This auction will precede a Machinery Auction at the same location.

OWNER: Ron & Sue Brothen

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Tractors, Pickups & Farm Equipment

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Location: ON SITE: 9515 104th St NW - Columbus, ND

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