Putin’s war in Ukraine has sent energy prices skyrocketing. Governments across the globe have been forced to turn to alternative fossil fuel-producing authoritarian governments like Saudi Arabia to keep the lights on. Meanwhile, the big oil and gas companies are furiously lobbying Congress to drill more here at home.

Minnesotans know, however, that the climate crisis is real and really urgent. We need a way to strengthen our national security, become energy independent, create good union jobs, and combat the climate crisis — all at the same time. We can and must go beyond underwriting authoritarian regimes by buying their fossil fuels, destroying the environment, and exacerbating the climate crisis with domestic drilling.

Instead, we can take this opportunity and double down on investing in renewable energy generation in the United States. The Energy Security and Independence Act will invest $100 billion to reinvigorate the U.S. energy industrial base and create a task force to work with environmental justice communities, labor unions, scientists, and companies to accelerate the transition to renewable energy. The bill will also provide funding to update and insulate 6.4 million homes to reduce energy costs.

Specifically, the Energy Security and Independence Act of 2022 will:

- Fund the Defense Production Act (DPA) for use by the Biden administration to build renewable energy to scale in the United States to lower prices and reduce our reliance on dangerous and unpredictable fossil fuels;
- Invest in the renewable energy supply chain in the US to support reliable, affordable and safe energy production and green jobs with strong labor standards;
- Invest billions in energy efficiency to lower utility prices including investments in weatherization and heat pumps.

We ask that you co-sponsor and support S. 4013.