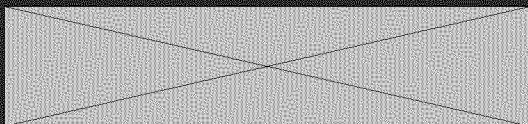


To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: The Washington Post
Sent: Fri 11/10/2017 5:16:08 PM
Subject: Checkpoint: Military jury convicts Marine drill instructor who targeted Muslims



A military blog by Dan Lamothe

Military jury convicts Marine drill instructor who targeted Muslims

Witnesses told the court they heard him call Muslim recruits 'terrorist' and 'ISIS.'

By Rory Laverty • [Read more »](#)

How the Air Force's mistake let the church shooter slip past the FBI

The Air Force failed to follow notification policies in Kelley's case. What happens now?

By Alex Horton • [Read more »](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

Marine who urinated on dead Taliban has conviction thrown out due to general's meddling

A judge called the case an 'unusually flagrant example' of unlawful command influence.

By Dan Lamothe • [Read more »](#)

Trump added troops in Afghanistan. But NATO is still short of meeting its goal.

'We still have some gaps that we are continuing to work on,' said the NATO secretary general.

By Dan Lamothe • [Read more »](#) ADVERTISEMENT

He's accused of abusing Muslims training to be Marines. A military jury must decide his fate.

Charges against Gunnery Sgt. Joseph Felix stem from Raheel Siddiqui's suicide last year.

By Rory Lavery • [Read more »](#)

Recommended for you

Get the Fact Checker newsletter

Count the pinocchios. A weekly review of what's true, false or in-between.

[Sign Up »](#)

Share Checkpoint: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

Trouble reading? [Click here](#) to view in your browser.

You received this email because you signed up for Checkpoint or because it is included in your subscription. For additional free newsletters or to manage your newsletters, [click here](#).

We respect your [privacy](#). If you believe that this email has been sent to you in error or you no longer wish to receive email from The Washington Post, [click here](#). [Contact us](#) for help.

©2017 The Washington Post, 1301 K St NW, Washington DC 20071

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Morning Energy
Sent: Fri 11/10/2017 3:04:12 PM
Subject: POLITICO's Morning Energy, presented by ExxonMobil: Top energy highlights in Senate's tax overhaul — Hawks arrive in Bonn to reassure uneasy world of U.S. climate action — Perry headlining Texas event for Pro-Trump group

By Anthony Adragna | 11/10/2017 10:00 AM EDT

With help from Eric Wolff, Alex Guillén, Adam Behsudi, Esther Whieldon and Ben Lefebvre

AT LAST MY TAX IS COMPLETE AGAIN! Senate tax writers waited until 9 p.m. Thursday to roll out their tax bill, and here's what jumped out to ME's bleary-eyes:

- **The big stuff everyone gets:** The Senate bill, like the House bill, cuts the corporate tax rate to 20 percent, something pretty much all the energy companies will like. And the bill provides a temporary ability to use 100 percent expensing of capital, a boon to capital-intensive energy industries like oil, natural gas, coal mining, and even renewables, though solar companies have an interaction between the Investment Tax Credit and expensing that may cause unpleasant side-effects.
- **Oil gets a change to treatment of foreign income:** ME noticed that oil comes up several times in the tax bill, but the one that jumped out was the oil industry got a \$4 billion boost from a change to the treatment of refining and pipeline operations overseas in the Senate bill, the same as it got in the House bill. An industry source told ME earlier in the week that the change actually has little impact on bottom lines, since it mostly changes in what tax year foreign subsidiaries transfer money up to parent companies. The source was baffled as to why the Joint Committee on Taxation gave it a score in the House version, and will no doubt still be baffled at the score in the Senate version.
- **Utilities keep their exception to the interest deduction changes.** The Senate bill cuts the amount of interest businesses can deduct, but utilities, who favor the provision much more than 100 percent expensing, get a carveout.
- **No home for the orphans:** Senate tax writers opted not to deal with a slew of expired energy tax credits that found homes in the House bill. Nothing for fuel cells, small wind, microturbines, or even the nuclear tax credit extension. And there appeared to be nothing related to a carbon capture and sequestration credit pushed by a bipartisan group.
- **Then again, windies can becalmed:** The senators also did not include the changes the House made to Production Tax Credit. Iowa Sen. Chuck Grassley has said the House bill didn't need to make its changes, since the PTC was already going to phase out under a 2015 agreement. "The Senate tax reform bill keeps a promise to America's more than 100,000 wind energy workers and restores the confidence of businesses pouring billions of dollars into rural America," Tom Kiernan, CEO of the American Wind Energy Association, said in a statement.
- **Charged up for EVs:** The Senate did not follow the House lead on electric vehicles, either.

While the House wiped out a \$7,500 tax credit, the Senate bill is silent.

Environmental groups are already trashing the effort. "The GOP is once again trying to redirect taxpayer money to the super-rich and super-polluting fossil fuel industry - and they expect us to pay for it by giving up our healthcare, our safety, and our children's future," Janet Redman, U.S. policy director for Oil Change International, said in one typical statement.

Bigger picture: There are massive differences between the House and Senate versions of the tax overhaul that signal hard bargaining lies ahead, POLITICO's tax gurus Aaron Lorenzo, Brian Faler and Bernie Becker [report](#). Their take: "Reconciling the House and Senate plans and getting sign-off from Trump is likely to be daunting." Score of the Senate proposal [here](#).

IT'S THE END OF THE WEEK AS WE KNOW IT! I'm your host Anthony Adragna, and the Renewable Fuels Association's Rachel Gantz was first to pick Rep. Candice Miller as the congresswoman turned public works commissioner. Your end-of-the-week puzzler: Which powerful governing body out West has two former members of Congress among its five slots? Send your tips, energy gossip and comments to aadragna@politico.com, or follow us on Twitter [@AnthonyAdragna](#), [@Morning_Energy](#) and [@POLITICOPro](#).

CLIMATE HAWKS LAND IN BONN: Five Democratic senators - [Ben Cardin](#), [Ed Markey](#), [Sheldon Whitehouse](#), [Brian Schatz](#) and [Jeff Merkley](#) - are on the ground at the Bonn climate talks this weekend and will hold a call today at 12:30 p.m. to discuss their goals. But their message is clear: "We're not all nuts," Whitehouse told ME.

Still in it to win it: On Saturday, California Gov. Jerry Brown and former NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg will unveil America's Pledge with a report detailing the scope of the actions planned by non-federal entities to fight climate change. Joining them to reiterate U.S. commitment to aggressive climate action: Cardin, UNFCCC Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa, COP23 President and Fijian Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama and Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto, among others.

Big spenders: The World Resources Institute announced Thursday a private cash infusion of \$2.1 billion in private funds to help restore degraded lands in Latin America and the Caribbean. "With more than \$2 billion of investments earmarked for Latin America alone, restoration is a climate solution that works and is a great investment," Walter Vergara, coordinator of the new push, said in a statement. More information [here](#).

**** Presented by ExxonMobil:** We're collaborating with FuelCell Energy on a novel idea to use fuel cells to capture carbon at natural gas power plants, and in the process reduce emissions and increase electrical output. This technology could be a game changer in addressing the world's growing need for energy, while also reducing the impact on the environment. [Learn more.](#) **

WHEN HE'S NOT WRITING OP-EDS: Energy Secretary Rick Perry, back from a trip to Paris this week, will headline a "roundtable discussion" in Houston on Monday afternoon on behalf of America First Policies, the pro-Trump political nonprofit, Campaign Pro's Maggie Severns [reports](#). America First has been quiet much of the year but is now pushing to give a jolt

to its fundraising and reassert its close ties to President Donald Trump. But Texas businessman Roy Bailey, who has deep ties to group, said Perry won't be there looking to raise funds. "It's a nice opportunity for people to understand what's going on at the Energy Department," Bailey said.

Remember: Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke has generated controversy and several investigations over his habit of mixing political activities with official government business.

CORNSTATERS NOT ALL SOLD ON WHITE: Kathleen Harnett White, Trump's pick to chair the Council on Environmental Quality, will need the support of all the Midwesterners on the Senate Environment committee if she's going to advance, and it looks like she still has some work to do on that front. Despite disavowing her previously staunch opposition to the Renewable Fuel Standard thanks to "new data" from Sen. Joni Ernst, White doesn't yet have Ernst's backing. "We're still debating that one," Ernst told ME. Veteran ME readers know the Iowa Republican extracted concessions from EPA on the RFS before backing new agency air chief Bill Wehrum.

Nebraska's Deb Fischer is also "still debating" White's nomination, and she is still looking for more information on how White would do her job. The CEQ chair doesn't have a regulatory role on RFS, but she would offer advice to Trump. "If you look at the questioning I had, I was looking at also how she would present options to the president," Fischer told ME. "That's going to be her job, not necessarily on the RFS, but where she gets her data from, how she prepares that and what kind of facts she has. We'll see how it shakes out."

Rounds a tentative yes: Mike Rounds of South Dakota said he's not totally on board, but, "I would lean yes as opposed to no." He thought she answered his questions well. "What I wanted to make sure people understood is that the RFS in its current form is the minimum we can do," he said.

PRUITT ADDRESSES ANTI-CLIMATE ACTION CONFERENCE: EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt delivered a two-minute video address to a conference in Houston sponsored by the Heartland Institute, the group that opposes action to fight climate change. "I want to say to you at the Heartland Institute, thanks for what you're doing to advance energy, thanks for what you're doing to advance natural resources," Pruitt said. "There's great optimism across the country and I pray you feel that in Houston, Texas."

PAUSED FURTHER: A federal appeals court once again ordered lawsuits over the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan held in abeyance for another 60 days, until Jan. 8, Pro's Alex Guillén reports. The D.C. Circuit ordered EPA to file status updates on its CPP repeal effort every 30 days.

BLUNT MESSAGE FOR BARRASSO: Whitehouse told ME he understands why Pruitt might not want to testify before the Senate EPW committee but that Chairman John Barrasso should not let him off. "There's a point where oversight becomes a responsibility irrespective of your loyalties," he said. "I think there will be really awkward questions for him and I think the farther he stays away from a forum where he has to tell the truth, the happier he is."

DOURSON REALLY IN TROUBLE? If a vote came up today, ranking member [Tom Carper](#) told reporters, Michael Dourson, Trump's pick to run EPA's chemicals office, wouldn't have the necessary votes. "Privately, in my conversations with a number of Republicans, they have expressed deep concerns," he said. "We're going to make sure at the end of the day that he does not have the votes." And North Carolina's [Thom Tillis](#) confirmed Wednesday he's not yet ready to back Dourson: "We've heard the concerns and we're working on getting the background information."

ZINKE SAYS HE'S READY TO MEET WITH DURBIN: Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke said in a [letter](#) Thursday said he would be "happy to meet ... to discuss any issue" involving the agency with Senate Minority Whip [Dick Durbin](#) who has put the confirmation of multiple Interior nominees on hold until he gets a meeting with the secretary to discuss his review of several dozen national monument designations. Zinke pointed out that he talked with a number of Democrats prior to sending the report to the White House in late August and also with Sen. [Tom Udall](#) in mid-September on the New Mexico Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks and Rio Grande Del Norte monuments. In a [tweet](#) Thursday, Zinke said he'd be "happy to talk monuments and nominees. Call anytime, Dick."

MORE INFORMATION SOUGHT ON PERRY'S PLAN: Four environmental groups - the Sierra Club, Earthjustice, the Environmental Defense Fund and the Natural Resources Defense Council - filed FOIA requests with [Energy](#) and [FERC](#) seeking information on the development of Energy Secretary Rick Perry's grid resiliency proposal to FERC. "It's outrageous that there is so little transparency at DOE that we have to repeatedly file these Freedom of Information Act requests instead of Rick Perry simply allowing the public and energy stakeholders to inform the policy making process," the Sierra Club's Mary Anne Hitt said in a statement.

HERE'S SOMETHING: The compromise version of the National Defense Authorization Act would require the Pentagon to rank the top 10 installations in each military branch's that are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change over the next two decades, Pro Defense's Connor O'Brien [reports](#). Conservatives sought to take out the provision during House floor debate earlier this year, but Democrats and moderate Republicans teamed up to leave it in.

ZINKE DENIES IMPROPRIETY IN WHITEFISH DEALINGS: During an interview with Fox News late Thursday, Zinke denied playing any role in his son landing a job with controversial Whitefish Energy - "he got a job by himself" - and said he had no role in the Montana-based company getting a now-cancelled contract to repair Puerto Rico's electric grid. "I didn't have any influence, didn't have any knowledge of the contract. Puerto Rico is not under Interior. And those elitists that would think from being a small town somehow is a crime, shame on ya," he said.

MAIL CALL! CONSERVATIVES ENDORSE 'BIGGER' MONUMENT REVIEW: Twenty-four House Republicans sent a [letter](#) to Trump Thursday urging him to "think big and act bigger" as he mulls final recommendations about what to do to a host of prior national monument designations. It recommends the outright rescission of several monuments and significant downsizing of others. "We ask that you take these recommendations to heart and that

you not be deterred by a few vocal special-interests groups from finishing what you set out to accomplish with this review," they wrote.

Democrats to GAO: Expand adviser probe: Ten members of the Senate Democratic caucus, led by Whitehouse, asked GAO in a Thursday [letter](#) to expand its existing probe into EPA scientific advisory appointments to evaluate Pruitt's new order barring scientists who receive grants from serving on advisory boards. "When a policy, like this one, does not on its face address the problem it purports to solve it should get exacting scrutiny to determine what in fact its true purpose is," they wrote.

How about that coal memo? Frustrated by the lack of response from the White House and EPA, Whitehouse [demanded](#) Murray Energy head Bob Murray turn over a copy of the three-page "action plan" he gave to the administration. The document became a [major focus](#) of Andrew Wheeler's nomination hearing to be EPA deputy administrator on Wednesday.

Think of us: The Petroleum Marketers Association of America sent a letter to Barrasso on Thursday asking him to urge the Trump administration "to reduce the ethanol mandate given that the [underground storage tank] system compatibility issues present severe economic harm to small businesses" as senators discuss the RFS with administration officials. Link [here](#).

ETHANOL, GRAINS PRODUCERS WANT BRAZIL PUNISHED: U.S. ethanol and grains producers are urging the U.S. Trade Representative to suspend Brazil's tariff benefits under the Generalized System of Preferences, which grants tariff relief on imports from developing countries, because of complaints that the South American country has put in place a restrictive quota on ethanol imports. "Brazil's decision to engage in protectionist trade measures as a result of a short-term and market-oriented deficit against the largest agriculturally related product imported from the U.S. is not in keeping with the spirit of the GSP program," the Renewable Fuels Association, Growth Energy and the U.S. Grains Council wrote in a [letter](#) to Lighthizer on Thursday.

SKEPTICISM OVER CBO'S ANWR ESTIMATE: Count Taxpayers for Common Sense among the deep skeptics that Senate Energy Chairman [Lisa Murkowski](#)'s proposal to open ANWR would generate more than \$1 billion in revenue over the next decade, as the Congressional Budget Office estimated it would. The non-partisan group forecasts that oil and gas companies would have to bid at levels 10 times higher than historic norms to meet the \$1 billion CBO estimates would flow into federal coffers. "If Congress were to enact legislation that opened up the 1002 Area to oil and gas leasing, it is unlikely - near to the point of impossibility - that such leasing would generate the amount of revenue to the Treasury that the CBO predicts," the group's new [fact sheet](#) states. It released a second fact sheet outlining [a series of other options](#) to raise revenue through federally-owned natural resources.

California's dirty secret? The Center for Biological Diversity released a report finding three-quarters of California's oil is as harmful to the environment as Canadian tar sands. Link [here](#).

High stakes in the desert: Failing to keep the Navajo Generating Station open could put at risk the reliability of Arizona's electric grid and the regional power supply, according to [a study](#)

funded by coal giant Peabody Energy. Among the cities potentially hardest hit include Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tucson and Flagstaff, according to the study. Summary link [here](#).

NO FUN! Amid [reports](#) the National Park Service is considering closing the National Mall to softball and frisbee games permanently, the Sierra Club's DC-based softball team, the Conservation Laborers Against Wrong, vowed a fight. "Maybe the hundreds of Congressional Republican staffers who play organized softball every summer will let Zinke and Trump know there is nothing to drill or mine for underneath the Mall," the team's coach Lauren Lantry quipped.

BLOWN AWAY? Facebook co-founder Mark Zuckerberg visited an Oklahoma wind farm where he said "it's clear that wind and renewables are the future." Full post [here](#).

QUICK HITS

- Millions Of Puerto Ricans Just Lost Power Again After A Line Repaired By Whitefish Energy Failed. [BuzzFeed](#).
- With Christie Out, New Jersey Poised To Rejoin New England In Climate Pact. [WNPR](#).
- As China Moves To Other Energy Sources, Its Coal Region Struggles To Adapt. [NPR](#).
- Oil prices rise on supply cuts and political tensions in Saudi Arabia. [Reuters](#).
- One of the World's Biggest Miners Is About to Go Coal-Free. [Bloomberg](#).
- FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant experiences leak within facility. [WSKG](#).

THAT'S ALL FOR ME!

****Presented by ExxonMobil:** Energy is fundamental to modern life and drives economic prosperity - in small communities across America and around the world. We need a range of solutions to meet growing energy demand while reducing emissions to address the risk of climate change. Visit the Energy Factor to learn more about some of the bold ideas and next-generation technologies we're working on to meet this challenge: [EnergyFactor.com](#) **

To view online:

<https://www.politico.com/tipsheets/morning-energy/2017/11/10/tax-reform-senate-energy-watchers-watch-bill-223282>

To change your alert settings, please go to <https://secure.politico.com/settings>

This email was sent to jackson.ryan@epa.gov by: POLITICO, LLC 1000 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA, 22209, USA

Please click [here](#) and follow the steps to unsubscribe.
