

Message

From: Myron Ebell [Myron.Ebell@cei.org]
Sent: 12/18/2017 3:32:31 PM
To: Myron Ebell [Myron.Ebell@cei.org]
Subject: Cooler Heads Coalition next meeting Monday, 8th January

The Cooler Heads Coalition will hold its January strategy meeting beginning at 12 noon on Monday, 8th January, at CEI, 1310 L Street, N. W., Seventh Floor. Please e-mail or ring me at **Ex. 6** with agenda items or questions.

The tax bill conference report drops most of the House reforms of the wind, solar, and electric vehicle handouts, but includes opening a small part of section 2002 of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas exploration. Producing oil in ANWR has been an issue since around 1977. When Congress created ANWR in 1980, it delayed deciding on whether to allow drilling in the coastal plain. It's taken forty years, and we aren't done yet. Actual exploration is still some years away. There will be lease sales, litigation at every step, protests, and lots more direct mail fundraising by the 'viro.

However, enactment of the tax bill will be the first step forward—and a huge one—since the Interior Department released their report in 1986 that recommended oil production in the coastal plain. It feels odd that after huge fights and bitter defeats in the mid-nineties and the mid-oughts, opening ANWR is finally being accomplished without much of a scuffle or even public attention. My guess is that the Trump Administration's multi-front assault on the 'viro's entrenched positions is taking its toll. On top of all the progress made at the EPA this year toward undoing the previous administration's climate agenda and the President's decision to get out of the Paris Climate Treaty, ANWR will be an encouraging way for the Congress to close its mostly dysfunctional year. Perhaps now the Senate will even confirm a bunch of nominees before the end of the year.

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