

POSITION STATEMENT OF THE
COMMITTEE AGAINST FUEL ADJUSTMENT
A MASSACHUSETTS STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION
PRESENTED IN WASHINGTON D.C. BY
MARGARET T. MACK MAY 20, 21, 1974

IN VIEW OF THE ALLEGED FACTS PRESENTED BY THE OIL INDUSTRY, THAT SINCE 1958, THEY HAVE BEEN PREDICTING THE ENERGY CRISIS AND THE SCARCITY OF OIL, CAFA ACCUSES THE OIL INDUSTRY OF ECONOMIC SABOTAGE, AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR NOT KEEPING FAITH WITH IT'S OWN PEOPLE, BY NOT INITIATING PROGRAMS IN THE SEARCH FOR NEW ENERGY.

THE YEAR IS NOW 1974 OR 16 YEARS LATER, IN WHICH WE NOW FIND OUR COUNTRY ENGULFED IN AN ECONOMIC NIGHTMARE, AFFECTING THE PAYCHECKS OF THE AMERICAN CONSUMER, NOT ONLY IN REGARDS TO FUEL AND ELECTRICITY COST, BUT IN ALL PRODUCTS THAT ARE PETROLEUM RELATED. WE ALSO FIND OUR GOVERNMENTAL FEDERAL ENERGY OFFICE PLAYING THE ROLE OF AN ALLOCATER, A POSITION WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN FILLED BY A GRAMMER SCHOOL STUDENT WITH AN A IN MATH.

THE REALIZATION OF WHAT IS, AND WHAT IS TO BE, HAS TO BE ESTABLISHED AT THIS POINT IN TIME, AND NOT ANOTHER 16 YEARS LATER. ADVOCATES OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS POINT OUT THEIR SUCCESS IN LOWERING PRICES, AND THE ODDS AGAINST FAILURE. WHILE OTHERS POINT OUT, THE DANGERS OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE BURYING OF RADIO ACTIVE WASTE FROM THESE PLANTS IN THE GROUND OR SEA BED. OTHERS ALSO POINT OUT THE DESTRUCTIVE FORCES OF NATURE AND MAN, THAT DEFY MAN'S ABILITY IN SAFE GUARDING. THE BURNING OF COAL FOR LOWERING THE COST IS ALSO MENTIONED. TO BURN IT MORE EFFICIENTLY FOR CLEANER AIR, AND TO MINE IT WITHOUT RAVAGING THE LAND, POSES A PROBLEM, BUT ONE THAT SHOULD NOT PROVE INSOLVABLE.

NATURAL GAS BY ACCEPTABLE EXPLORATION TAKES IT'S PLACE IN SHARING THE BURDEN OF ENERGY, BUT NATURAL GAS BY ATOMIC BOMBING IN THE GROUND AND IN THE SEA BED NOT ONLY RAISES QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE EARTHS STRUCTURE, BUT ALSO THE RELEASE OF RADIO ACTIVE MATERIALS THAT IS MIXED INTO THE GAS, WHICH HAS TO BE CONTROLLED OR WATERED DOWN PROPERLY BEFORE IT IS PASSED ON TO THE CONSUMER. PROPOSED OFF SHORE DRILLING AND REFINERIES IN THE NORTHEAST NO DOUBT COULD ADD MORE OIL TO THE WORLDS SUPPLY. THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT COULD BE DEBATED MANY TIMES OVER. WHETHER OR NOT THE OIL WOULD BE SOLD IN THE NORTHEAST IS STILL ANOTHER QUESTION.

THE LONG RANGE ESTIMATES OF THE WORLD'S SUPPLY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE RESULTING COST TO THE CONSUMER WILL ALWAYS BE OPEN TO MANIPULATIONS, BY THOSE WHO CONTROL THE RESOURCES, AS EVIDENCED BY TODAY'S SO CALLED OIL CRISIS, AND IF THE DEPLETION OF NATURAL RESOURCES IS INEVITABLE, THEN WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF STOP GAP SOLUTIONS INSTEAD OF REAL SOLUTIONS.

CAFA IS NOT CONCERNED WITH THE PHANTOM FIGURES OF HOW MUCH COAL, GAS, OR OIL THAT IS STILL TO BE TAPPED. TIME ALONE WILL PROVE THE CORRECT FIGURE. WHAT BOTHERS CAFA AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IS THAT IF OIL IS IN A LIMITED SUPPLY WHETHER IT BE ABOVE OR BELOW GROUND, THEN IT WOULD SEEM MORE SENSIBLE TO SAVE THIS LIMITED SUPPLY FOR PETROLEUM RELATED INDUSTRIES SUCH AS PLASTICS AND FERTILIZERS, AND NOT TO BURN IT OFF IN AREAS WHERE ANOTHER SOURCE OF ENERGY MAY BE SUFFICIENT TO CARRY THE BURDEN, SUCH AS SUN, WIND, OR WATER POWER. ALTHOUGH NEW PROGRAMS USING THESE THREE SOURCES FOR ENERGY MAY BE LABELED AS TODAY'S FOLLIES ESPECIALLY BY THOSE WHO WILL NOT DIRECTLY PROFIT FROM THEM, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT OUR GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES THE IMMEDIATE NEED FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND NOT RHETORIC, IN REGARDS TO SUCH PROGRAMS. IF OUR GOVERNMENT REFUSES TO PICK UP THIS CHALLENGE THEN TODAY'S NEGLECT WILL SURELY BE TOMORROWS DISASTER. IF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE FEELING A STRAIN NOW, WHAT WILL THE CHILDREN OF TOMORROW EXPERIENCE, IF WE DO NOT BEGIN NOW TO BUILD A BETTER LEGACY OF ENERGY.

CAFA IS THEREFORE ASKING OUR GOVERNMENT TO WIPE OFF THE DUST FROM PAST RESEARCHS AND STUDIES, AND TO IGNORE THE LOBBY MONEY THAT PREVENTS THE GROWTH OF SUCH PROGRAMS.

CAFA IS ALSO CALLING UPON THE AMERICAN OIL INDUSTRY AND THEIR FOREIGN PARTNERS TO BRING IMMEDIATE ECONOMIC RELIEF BY VOLUNTARILY ROLLING BACK THEIR OIL PRICES.

CAFA IS ALSO CALLING UPON THE AMERICAN OIL INDUSTRY TO SHOW THEIR GOOD FAITH AND CONCERN TOWARDS THE WELFARE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THEIR CHILDREN OF TOMORROW, BY USING IT'S LOBBY MONEY AND A PERCENTAGE OF ITS ASTRONOMICAL PROFITS IN THE FORM OF A SUBSIDY TO FURTHER THE PROGRAMS OF ENERGY THAT PERTAIN TO THE SUN, WIND, AND WATER.

ONLY BY TAKING THESE CONCERNED ACTIONS WILL AMERICA PROVE ONCE AGAIN IT'S FORESIGHT AND ABILITY TO POINT OUT THE ROAD TO A BETTER WAY OF LIFE, AND ONLY BY TAKING THESE STEPS WILL THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BEGIN TO BELIEVE ONCE AGAIN IN THEIR ELECTED LEADERS, AND THE DUTY THAT THEY HAVE SWORN TO

COMMITTEE AGAINST FUEL ADJUSTMENT
P. O. BOX 1053
ATTLEBORO, MASS. 02703

June 5, 1974

Dear Mr. Cadigan:

In the past you have asked our organization and others to join or support the utilities in bringing attention to our Federal Government on the issue of energy and high electrical rates, that plague our country especially in the Northeast.

We realize that you may have already sent letters of protest and representatives to Washington on this matter. Our group has also gone to Washington where we presented our position statement before the New England Congressional Caucus, Federal Power Commission, Federal Energy Office and other members of Congress.

In view of the past inadequacies of our Congress and President to come to grips with this energy crisis in a rapid fashion, CAFA is proposing a different approach to this situation consisting of three proposals.

1. We are asking all the utilities not only in the Northeast but all others in the Country that are subjected to oil related higher cost electricity to send representatives to Washington not as separate delegations but as one large delegation representing not only the utilities but also the consumer in calling for immediate relief by the rolling back of American oil prices through Congressional Laws and through economic pressure on foreign suppliers.

2. CAFA will initiate a drive which will also call for a price rollback.

This will be done by calling out to all the consumers and taxpayers of Massachusetts and related states and all other consumer groups to mail a post card to CAFA, P.O. BOX 1053, ATTLEBORO, MASS. 02703 The post cards will then be

forwarded to Washington to back up the utilities demand for a price rollback.

3. CAFA will also ask for a letter from each member of the Massachusetts Legislative Body calling for a price rollback of oil. This letter will also be forwarded to Washington along with the post cards.

These three proposals would not only join the utilities, consumers and the politicians towards a single goal but would prove to the consumer that the utilities and the politicians are actually concerned over the plight of the people.

CAFA is willing to meet with you to discuss these proposals. We feel the time for consolidated action is now.

May we please have your answer as soon as possible?

Sincerely yours,

Margaret F. Mack
Chairwoman

COMMITTEE AGAINST FUEL ADJUSTMENT
P. O. BOX 1053
ATTLEBORO, MASS. 02703

June 24, 1974

Dear *Council or Board Members:*

CAFA is a committee opposed to the high cost of electricity which shows up as a fuel adjustment charge on our electric bill. It is a charge brought on by the high cost of oil and is now reflected on the tax rate in every community.

Enclosed with this letter you will find CAFA'S position statement that was read before the New England Congressional Caucus and also entered into the Congressional Record. A copy was also sent to the President of the United States, and we also have enclosed CAFA'S three point proposal asking for oil price roll back.

Therefore CAFA is asking for your support in the form of a letter supporting CAFA'S drive in calling for immediate relief by rolling back oil prices through Congressional Laws and economic pressure on foreign suppliers.

Please send your endorsment to above address.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret V. Mack
Chairwoman

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comm from Margaret T. Mack, Chairwomen, CAFA
requesting support in the form of a letter for
immediate relief by rolling back oil prices.

In City Council,

July 22, 1974

7/24/74
Placed on File