

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 5, 2008



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## **ABBODD: MANZULLO 15 YEARS LATE ON ENERGY ISSUE WITH PHONY, INEFFECTIVE PLAN**

Energy Expert Says Manzullo's Old, Empty Promises Not What America Needs

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CRYSTAL LAKE – Bob Abboud, nuclear engineer and 16th District congressional candidate, said incumbent Don Manzullo's newfound interest in America's energy crisis amounts to little more than empty promises from a do-nothing congressman facing a tough election.

"Don Manzullo's plan is only about 15 years late," Abboud said. "Sitting idly by while gas prices hit four dollars a gallon and then all of a sudden announcing that America has to rid its dependence on oil is extremely phony and proves that he's failed as a congressman on this issue. He's a Johnny-Come-Lately to a problem that has been spiralling out of control for years. How can we trust Don Manzullo's rhetoric when he has yet to support plan to get us of Iraq or a real plan to move this country toward energy independence? The fact is, the old do-nothing policies of Don Manzullo have failed, and it's time for new ideas and new leadership."

Abboud said the specifics of Manzullo's plan are just as phony as the election-time rhetoric in which they are couched. The Barrington Hills Mayor said the plan would do nothing to free America from its dependence on foreign oil and even less to reduce the price of gasoline today or in the future.

"Drilling in ANWR (Arctic Natural Wildlife Reserve), as Manzullo has proposed, would not even give us oil that could be refined into significant quantities of gasoline for 6 or 7 years. The crude oil available there would not fulfill America's energy needs for more than a year," Abboud said. "We also cannot jeopardize one of our most precious natural wildlife refuges. This would be an environmental disaster. Second, the gas tax holiday, which Manzullo has plagiarized from others, is a just a short-sighted election-year proposal that will ultimately do nothing to reduce gas prices for regular people in the future. While I support a tax holiday for the summer months, we must implement a long-term strategy if we really want to deal with the problem, and this just isn't in Manzullo's vocabulary. Ultimately, his plan is ineffective and irresponsible."

Abboud, an energy policy expert, said that America must bring to the market new energy products that will compete with gasoline and draw down the price of fuel.

"This year we have a real opportunity as a nation to break our dependence on oil, reduce the price of gasoline for everyday Americans and become a world leader in alternative energy technology," Abboud said. "Voters get to choose between the old, failed policies of a do-nothing Congress and Congressman and a new approach based on solving real problems and investing in people."

Abboud urged interested citizens to go to his website, [www.abboudforcongress.com](http://www.abboudforcongress.com), and read his in-depth proposal to solve the energy crisis in America.