



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

November 16, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Your nominee to lead the independent bureau of the U.S. Treasury, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Dr. Saule Omarova has made public comments saying that she wants businesses in the oil and gas industry “to go bankrupt.” Those businesses employ my constituents, and yours.

Neither a president, nor his appointees, should advocate for the bankruptcy of American businesses. As Governor of the largest oil and gas producing state in the United States, I call on you to immediately withdraw the nomination of Saule Omarova for Comptroller of the Currency.

When Dr. Omarova calls for bankrupting the oil and gas industry, she does so with total disregard for the hundreds of thousands of Americans who work in the industry.

Just as troubling, Dr. Omarova’s desire to bankrupt American energy producers coincide with your demands that OPEC produce more oil. Why would an American president want other nations to produce more oil while also acting to bankrupt oil producers in his own country?

After years of the United States being held as an economic hostage to the actions of foreign cartels, we finally became energy independent during the last decade. Now is not the time to abandon that independence; instead, we should reaffirm it.

To make matters worse, hostility toward the oil and gas industry in America is stoking inflation and contributing to challenges in the clogged supply chain. It is adding an extraordinary burden to the pocketbooks of low-income and middle-class Americans at the same time they are trying to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas.

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Dr. Omarova's hostility toward the oil and gas sector and the men and women who work in the industry disqualify her from serving in your administration. I respectfully ask that you act in the best interest of Texans and millions of Americans by immediately withdrawing Saule Omarova's nomination for Comptroller of the Currency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Greg Abbott
Governor

GA:cwd

cc: Senator Mitch McConnell, Senate Republic Leader
Senator Chuck Schumer, Senate Majority Leader
Senator John Cornyn
Senator Ted Cruz
Senator Sherrod Brown, Senate Banking Committee Chairman
Senator Patrick Toomey, Senate Banking Committee Ranking Member