

**Jon Hulburd's answers to questions posed at the Congressional District 3 Forum on  
Arizona's Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources (July 8, 2010):**

1. OPENING STATEMENT

Protecting our environment and moving consumption to sustainability are a few of the greatest challenges we face as a state and nation. I am committed to protecting our land and resources, while creating a stronger future for our children.

As a nation, we are far too dependent on foreign oil—and it's a problem that doesn't just concern our environment, but has a troubling impact on our economy and national security. It is essential that we make energy a national priority.

I believe that investing in domestic alternative fuel sources is essential to building a strong economy—it allows us to concentrate on creating jobs and a strong industry right here at home. With our year-round sunshine, Arizona is a natural leader for our nation's solar industry, bringing new jobs to our state and diversifying our economy.

2. Comprehensive clean energy climate change legislation was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives last summer and now the Senate and House are both considering new bills. In light of the tragic oil spill in the gulf, many are calling for tighter oversight and regulation of the oil industry. What comprehensive legislation would you support to address these important energy issues?

Greater oversight and regulation for the oil industry are an essential part of any comprehensive energy bill. The House sent the latest version of the American Clean Energy and Security Act to the Senate last week, and frankly, I think it is missing a huge piece of the puzzle by not addressing the regulation of offshore drilling.

3. The latest Clean Air Report released by the Arizona Lung Association gives mixed reviews about Arizona's air quality. The Lung Association is calling for Congress to pass the Clean Air Act Amendments of 2010, which will cut emissions from power plants that create particle pollution and ozone. What specific actions would you propose to clean up our air and protect children and families?

I like the idea of using a free-market solution to reduce emissions. We are already paying for carbon producing companies. I think it is best to get the cost we are paying out into the open and let the free market do what it does best - in this case, reduce carbon emissions. However, I do think that tightening air-quality standards for corporations and utilities and improving our public transportation infrastructure need to be a part of the equation as well.

4. Over the long haul, investment in clean energy technology creates four times as many jobs as investments in non-clean energy sources. A report recently issued by Northern Arizona University shows that over the next ten to fifteen years aggressive development of renewable and nuclear energy in Arizona could generate more than ten billion in economic activity, more than 50,000 in construction-phase jobs, and more than 4,000 permanent new jobs. The question is what legislation do you support or how would you solve and deal with this problem to reduce carbon emissions and create clean energy jobs?

Creating a vibrant clean energy industry in the United States is essential to restoring our economy, protecting our environment, and improving our security by reducing our dependence on foreign oil. I want to invest in companies that are working with clean energy, and update transmission lines to build a more efficient grid. The move to alternative energy has the potential of being a true asset to Arizona's

economy. We should be the Middle East of solar power and we need a representative who will advance that agenda.

5. Arizona State Parks are suffering and in fact many of them are shut down because of state budget problems. One possible solution to help keep those parks open and to help with future recreation activities and recreation opportunities would be full-funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Would you support legislation that includes fully funding that fund?

Preserving the land and natural resources of our state is very important to me, and I would support any fiscally responsible legislation that funded the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

6. We're going to the audience questions now. And the first question from the audience is how, and here's the key word, exactly will you build bi-partisan agreement on these complex public policy and technical issues that you've been talking about today?

These issues are too important to let partisan bickering get in the way. Working across the aisle is absolutely necessary, and I will work to restore civil discourse and build bipartisan consensus for successful, effective solutions to protect our open spaces and find solutions to the energy crisis. I am not a politician. I am running because I care deeply about our community. My ideas aren't partisan, just like I feel this district isn't particularly partisan. I plan to bring this common sense approach back to Washington.

7. What is your position on an effort to allow the Arizona State Parks to become national monuments, which would in turn take them out of the state legislature's control, which we talked about earlier?

Unfortunately, due to the state's budget crisis, Arizona has closed 21 of the 30 state parks. I am inclined to want to keep our parks under our State's control, however, I would be willing to examine other options.

8. What is your stance on transportation and mass transit in Arizona? And since you are running for the U.S. Congress, we will expand that a little bit, and how are you looking at dealing with transportation issues in general for the United States?

A solid transportation infrastructure isn't a luxury; it's a necessity for a thriving economy. Promoting and improving public transit across the country will help create sustainable economic growth and get a handle on carbon emissions. We also need to invest in infrastructure that will meet both the economic and environmental needs of our State.

9. Caring for and protecting our open spaces are critical to maintaining 'America the Beautiful.' What would you do to help preserve that land and help prevent development to ensure these areas are conserved?

Developing our protected lands is robbing a treasure from our children and grandchildren. Preserving our open spaces is essential to our future, and I am opposed to the development or misuse of protected land. I will not support any legislation that compromises our natural resources.

10. The question from the audience is what will you do to make Arizona the solar capital of the country? The additional add-on to that is going to be do you believe there is a need for a national energy policy and if you do believe that, how are we going to pay for it? We'll pay for it one way or the other through rates or through taxes or whatever. What's your suggestion on how we deal with that? What would that policy look like and I guess that's enough. We'll give them three minutes on that because of the complexity of it.

Arizona is well-placed to be the solar capital of this country, but we can't claim that title if the industry leaders are opting for other states over Arizona. We need to make it clear to solar industry leaders that Arizona is business-friendly, and has the resources, workforce, and ability to grow their business.

I believe we must extend tax incentives for the clean energy industry and support new and existing solar power companies in Arizona. We must take this opportunity to lead our nation's solar revolution, bringing new jobs to our state and working to diversify our economy.

I do think we need a national energy policy—it's a national issue, and impacts all of our lives on many different levels. We need a policy that addresses industrial energy consumption and emissions, funding for new technologies, transitioning from foreign oil to domestic resources, and improving oversight. We need to be fiscally responsible when designing such a policy. Through implementing tax credits and other incentives, we can pay for these programs without putting a heavy burden on consumers.

#### 11. CLOSING STATEMENTS

Finding solutions to our energy problems is not a challenge we can put off any longer. We need a new direction now. We need to focus on reducing energy consumption and emissions, developing new technologies, transitioning from foreign oil to domestic resources, and improving oversight. In meeting these new challenges, we need to ensure that we are coming up with sustainable solutions that are preserving our environment land, and resources. In Congress, I will fight to invest in new technologies, reward Americans who utilize clean energy technologies in their everyday lives, and continue to care for and protect our open spaces.