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## Plan Text

#### Plan: The United States Federal Government should substantially increase its economic engagement with Mexico over hydrocarbons in the Gulf of Mexico.

## Mexico Advantage

#### Advantage one is Mexico

#### Aggressive natural gas plays from Mexico are inevitable – but all terrestrial means of production are tapped out and their technology and equipment are shoddy

Carlos Rodriguez (writer for Bloomberg News) September 4, 2012 “U.S. Shale Glut Means Gas Shortage for Mexican Industry: Energy” <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-09-03/u-s-shale-glut-means-gas-shortage-for-mexican-industry-energy.html>

Mexico has begun cutting natural gas supplies to some of its largest customers by as

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will be by pipelines, and they’re at their limit,” Shields said.

#### This ensures push for offshore development - PEMEX just discovered huge natural gas deposits

Stuart Hampton (Editor at Hoovers, specializes in oil and natural gas industry) May 26, 2011 “PEMEX’s big new natural gas discovery” http://bizmology.hoovers.com/2011/05/26/pemexs-big-new-natural-gas-discovery/

Now it appears to be Mexico’s turn to strike it rich. Last week,

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, stymying the Mexico-City based company’s plans to exploit the deposits.

#### The signal of increased maritime energy cooperation is key – otherwise business certainty is impossible

Curry L. Hagerty (Specialist in Energy and Natural Resources Policy at the Congressional Research Service) June 15, 2010 “Outer Continental Shelf Moratoria on Oil and Gas Development” <http://crs.ncseonline.org/nle/crsreports/10Jul/R41132.pdf>

In the case of the marine boundary between the U.S. and Mexico

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it remains unclear what role this Congress will take in addressing these topics.

#### Specifically – there are investors on the sidelines right now waiting to begin joint projects

Dudley Althaus (writer for the Houston Chronicle) July 16, 2012 “Will Texas oil companies get a shot at Mexico investments?” http://fuelfix.com/blog/2012/07/16/will-texas-oil-companies-get-a-shot-at-mexico-investments/

The sense of urgency gripping Mexican energy policies could bring big cash to Texas oil

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former senior U.S. diplomat overseeing commercial affairs in Mexico City.

#### We’ll isolate two impacts

#### First is US-Mexico relations,

#### The plan gives Nieto momentum for energy reform, failure to ratify will break down relations

Goldwyn et al 8/14 (David L., president of Goldwyn Global Strategies, LLC, an international energy advisory consultancy, and a nonresident senior fellow with the Energy Security Initiative at the Brookings Institution. David Goldwyn served as the U.S. State Department’s special envoy and coordinator for international energy affairs from 2009-2011, reporting directly to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. In this position, Goldwyn conceived and developed the Global Shale Gas Initiative and the Energy Governance and Capacity Initiative, led ministerial-level energy dialogues with Angola, Canada, China, India, Iraq, Mexico, Nigeria and Brazil, and co-chaired a regional biofuels initiative with Brazil., Neil R. Brown, Senior Advisor, Goldwyn Global Strategie, Cory R. Gill, Associate, Goldwyn Global Strategies; Brookings Institute, Time to Implement the U.S.-Mexico Transboundary Hydrocarbons Agreement — Congress: Drop the Poison Pill, http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/up-front/posts/2013/08/14-us-mexico-transboundary-hydrocarbon-goldwyn-brown-gill)

The United States and Mexico concluded a transboundary hydrocarbons agreement, officially titled the “

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the TBA are hurting their cause by encouraging the anti-transparency provision.

#### Otherwise, inevitable Gulf disputes destroy relations

BBC News 2/20/12 “US and Mexico agree Gulf of Mexico oil cooperation” <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-17108286>

The US and Mexico have agreed to work together to develop deep-water oil

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is well behind the US in developing deep water fields in the Gulf.

#### Energy cooperation is key to a SUSTAINABLE partnership – action NOW is key

Reyes 13 – JD, member of the USA Today Board of Contributors

(Raul, April, “Opinion: President Obama has the chance to improve US/Mexico relations,” http://nbclatino.com/2013/04/29/opinion-president-obama-has-the-chance-to-improve-usmexico-relations/)

Obama will arrive in Mexico with good and bad news. On the positive side

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foreign policy with Mexico based on its potential, not on its problems.

#### The plan puts energy at the forefront of the US-Mexico agenda – it shifts the national conversation

Roberta Rampton (writer for Reuters) April 29, 2013 “U.S.-Mexico deal on expanded Gulf oil drilling still in limbo” http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/04/29/usa-mexico-oil-idUSL2N0DG0CV20130429

The deal, formally known as the Transboundary Hydrocarbons Agreement, provides legal guidelines for

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during the last Congress as lead Republican international energy aide in the Senate.

#### Relations solve border terrorism and drug networks

Storrs 6 (K. Larry Storrs, Specialist in Latin American Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade Division of CRS, 1/18/2006 “Mexico’s Importance and Multiple Relationships with the United States”, <http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL33244_20060118.pdf>)//JG

Sharing a 2,000-mile border and extensive interconnections through the Gulf of

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, and border, terrorism,¶ health, environment, and energy issues.

#### The impact is an attack on US soil

McCaul 12 – JD @ St. Mary’s, former federal prosecutor

(Michael, “A LINE IN THE SAND: COUNTERING CRIME, VIOLENCE AND TERROR AT THE SOUTHWEST BORDER,” UNITED STATES HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, Lexis)//BB

Terrorism remains a serious threat to the security of the United States. The Congressional

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on U.S. soil ¶ into a weapon of mass destruction.

#### Nuclear war

Ayson 10 - Professor of Strategic Studies and Director of the Centre for Strategic Studies: New Zealand at the Victoria University of Wellington

(Robert, “After a Terrorist Nuclear Attack: Envisaging Catalytic Effects,” Studies in Conflict & Terrorism, 33.7, InformaWorld)//BB

But these two nuclear worlds—a non-state actor nuclear attack and a

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be admitted that any preemption would probably still meet with a devastating response.

#### Independently, a US economic crisis is coming

DeLong 13- Professor of Economics at the University of California, Berkeley, a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and a Visiting Fellow at the Kauffman Foundation (J. Bradford, “The Second Great Depression: Why the Economic Crisis is Worse Than You Think”, July/August 2013 Foreign Affairs)//Beddow

Despite its many virtues, however, the book paints an overly optimistic portrait of

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States is likely to suffer another major economic crisis in the years ahead.

#### Latin energy connectivity is key to growth

Noriega and Cardenas 12 – \*Former US State Dept Official, \*\* director with Vision Americas

(“An action plan for US policy in the Americas,” December, http://www.aei.org/outlook/foreign-and-defense-policy/regional/latin-america/an-action-plan-for-us-policy-in-the-americas/)//BB

Key points in this Outlook:

America’s economic crisis and threats to US security have undermined its traditional global-leadership

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its own hemisphere. A prosperous hemisphere means a more prosperous United States.

#### US growth solves great power war

Khalilzad 11 – PhD, Former Professor of Political Science @ Columbia, Former ambassador to Iraq and Afghanistan

(Zalmay Khalilzad was the United States ambassador to Afghanistan, Iraq, and the United Nations during the presidency of George W. Bush and the director of policy planning at the Defense Department from 1990 to 1992. "The Economy and National Security" Feb 8 http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/259024/economy-and-national-security-zalmay-khalilzad)//BB

Today, economic and fiscal trends pose the most severe long-term threat to

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, hostile states would be emboldened to make aggressive moves in their regions.

#### These wars go nuclear

Harris and Burrows 9 - \*Mathew, PhD European History @ Cambridge, counselor in the National Intelligence Council (NIC) , \*\*Jennifer, a member of the NIC’s Long Range Analysis Unit

(“Revisiting the Future: Geopolitical Effects of the Financial Crisis” <http://www.ciaonet.org/journals/twq/v32i2/f_0016178_13952.pdf>)//BB

Increased Potential for Global Conflict

Increased Potential for Global Conflict Of course, the report encompasses more than economics and

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within and between states in a more dog-eat-dog world.

#### Second is Mexican stability,

#### PEMEX’s production is approaching rapid decline, key to Mexican stability

Wood et al 12 (Ernesto Marcos David Shields David Enríquez Miriam Grunstein Lourdes Melgar Juan Eibenschutz Javier Estrada Marcelo Mereles Enrique Hidalgo Fluvio Ruiz Carlos Berdeja Juan Pardinas Josefina Cortés Tania Ortiz Isidro Morales Eduardo Andrade John Padilla Duncan Wood; Wilson Center Mexico Institute, A New Beginning for Mexican Oil: principles and recommendations for a reform in Mexico’s national interest, http://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/wood\_new\_beginning\_mexico.pdf)

Although the purpose of this paper is not to provide a comprehensive diagnosis of the

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granting the Mexican state the fiscal resources it needs to reduce inequity and poverty

#### Mexico collapse tanks hegemony, power projection, and diplomacy globally

Isidore Morales (Professor¶ Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education (ITESM)¶ Santa Fe Campus) April 29, 2011 “T¶ HE¶ E¶ NERGY¶ F¶ ACTOR IN¶ M¶ EXICO¶ –¶ U.S.¶ R¶ ELATIONS” <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/publications/EF-pub-MoralesFactor-04292011.pdf>

With the commercial and¶ security partnerships created by NAFTA and SPP, Mexico’s¶ geopolitical position is in some ways reminiscent of the military, commercial, and labor alliances¶ of World War II that were intended to support American leadership during the military¶ confrontation.¶ At the turn of the 21st¶ -¶ century, amid territorialized and de¶ -¶ territorialized enemies¶ and a mix of conventional and non¶ -¶ conventional weapons and tactics, Mexican space is once¶ again geopolitically and economically important to¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ interests. A military al¶ liance has not yet¶ been established, but¶ with¶ the creation of a¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ Northern Command, and the re¶ structuring of¶ U.S.¶ security policies under the aegis of the De¶ partment of Homeland Security,¶ Mexican territory¶ has become a de facto part of the¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ homeland¶ to protect; a sort of thick and extended border,¶ though which potential or suspicious enemies, illegal goods, and people, ought to be detected¶ and deterred in order to prevent harm to the¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ (Morales 2008¶ a¶ , 147¶ -¶ 68).¶ 26¶ Similar to the¶ situation witnessed during WWII, oil and energy resources are part of this renewed geopolitical¶ alliance, but not necessarily its core. Once again, Mexico is functioning as a sort of buffer¶ space¶ —¶ providing strategic resources to the¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ wh¶ ile helping to filter and deter threats and¶ possible attacks.¶ Since the implementation of NAFTA, however, some American scholars prefer to consider¶ Mexico a “pivotal” or “critical” state rather than a simple buffer zone. Pivotal states are to be¶ understood as those nations that are not “great powers,” per se, but rat¶ her emerging or¶ developing economies that are critical to U S interests. They are strategic and important for¶ 26¶ Established Oct. 1, 2002, the U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) provides command and control of¶ Department of Defense (DOD) homeland defense efforts and coordinates defense support of civil authorities.¶ USNORTHCOM’s area¶ of monitoring includes air, land and sea approaches and encompasses the continental United¶ States, Alaska, Canada, Mexico and the¶ surrounding water out to approximately 500 nautical miles. It also includes¶ the Gulf of Mexico, the Straits of Florida, porti¶ ons of the Caribbean region to include The Bahamas, Puerto Rico¶ and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Furthermore, the commander of USNORTHCOM is responsible for theater security¶ cooperation with Canada, Mexico, and The Bahamas (See:¶ http://www.northcom.mil/home.html¶ ). It is in this sense,¶ that Canada, Mexico and the Bahamas have become a critical surrounding of the U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ homeland to be protected¶ .¶ The Energy Factor in Mexico¶ -¶ U.S.¶ Relations¶ 31¶ American interests and regional and international stability due to a confluence of factors, not all¶ of which have to be present, such as: 1) geos¶ trategic importance; 2) uncertain evolution; 3)¶ potentially conveying significant beneficial or harmful¶ effects on their regions; and 4¶ ) the¶ possibilities for playing a key role on cross¶ -¶ cutting multilateral negotiations (Chase et al. 1999,¶ 6¶ -¶ 7).¶ Mexican¶ scholars and practitioners prefer to conceive of Mexico as a “middle power” or a¶ “commercial power” (Rico 2010, 112; González 2010; Espinosa 2010), but in recent decades, the¶ country has become pivotal for enhancing or jeopardizing American interests. NAFT¶ A has¶ transformed Mexico’s economy and the pattern of trade specialization with the¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ and Canada,¶ and the SPP has made the country a strategic¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ partner for combating old and new foes. While¶ Mexico’s geopolitical and geo¶ -¶ economical positions of the c¶ ountry were evident, there was¶ uncertainty about how the country would develop and what the impact on the region would be.¶ Pivots are by definition “wobbly” or “tippy,” that is, they could evolve toward confident, stable¶ regional powers or, to the contrary¶ , become unstable, unable to maintain local or regional order,¶ and lapse into chaos (Chase et al. 1999, 7). Unfortunately, since the inception of SPP, Mexico¶ has moved to an unstable and problematic scenario, which has prompted the¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ to treat security¶ w¶ ith its southern neighbor on a bilateral basis.¶ Indeed, the trilateral approach envisioned by SPP in both energy issues and security concerns¶ faded out with the Obama administration (2008¶ -¶ 2012). Trade, energy, and security concerns¶ remain on the North Ame¶ rican agenda but not as a trilateral policy issue, as originally envisioned¶ by SPP. A new era of bilateralism has emerged in which the violence and security concerns¶ related to the activities of transnational criminal organizations dominate the¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ -¶ Mexico¶ agenda.¶ For the past two years, “border security” has been the top priority between the two countries,¶ while trade and energy issues have become secondary.¶ Today, Mexico is an unstable and uncertain pivot. At risk is not only the decline of Mexico’s oil¶ output and consequently of exports, but the proliferation of “lawless spaces” ruled by local and¶ international organized crime organizations. During WWII and the Cold War years, Mexico¶ became a reliable buffer to¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ interests, despite government nationa¶ listic and revolutionary¶ The Energy Factor in Mexico¶ -¶ U.S.¶ Relations¶ 32¶ rhetoric, which the¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ accepted and tolerated even when it transcended Mexico’s international¶ and regional positions. At present, the domestic political situation of the country seems to be¶ more fragile and complicated, and the e¶ ntanglement of the country with¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ international¶ interests and concerns much more complex. As Peter Smith, a respected American scholar on¶ Mexico, put it some years ago: If Mexico functions as a “critical state” to¶ U¶ .¶ S¶ .¶ interests, the¶ ultimate goal of Wa¶ shington is to support development and political stability south of the border.¶ This could be done¶ —¶ as hypothesized by Smith¶ —¶ by lifting all cross¶ -¶ borders restrictions to labor¶ migration and by legalizing the sale and consumption of drugs. Smith, of course,¶ realizes that¶ these two policy options are not feasible at present times, so he envisions a cooperative scenario¶ between the two nations building on NAFTA and other bilateral commitments (Smith 2009, 240¶ -¶ 243). The worst scenario would be, of course, an es¶ calation of violence and instability in the¶ country, with a more aggressive capture of political elites by organized crime interests, and with¶ the cancelation of Mexico’s democratic and civic liberties. Amid such pessimism, there is hope¶ in that both Mexic¶ an and American civil societies share the same interests, since neither desires a¶ further degradation of the political situation in Mexico. The challenge is to construct new¶ institutional architecture through which the two countries can work for both their¶ own and¶ mutual interests in the near future.

#### Heg solves multiple scenarios for nuclear war

Brooks et al 13

[Stephen G. Brooks is Associate Professor of Government at Dartmouth College.G. John Ikenberry is the Albert G. Milbank Professor of Politics and International Affairs at Princeton University in the Department of Politics and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. He is also a Global Eminence Scholar at Kyung Hee University.William C. Wohlforth is the Daniel Webster Professor in the Department of Government at Dartmouth College. “Don't Come Home, America: The Case against Retrenchment”, Winter 2013, Vol. 37, No. 3, Pages 7-51, <http://www.mitpressjournals.org/doi/abs/10.1162/ISEC_a_00107>]

A core premise of deep engagement is that it prevents the emergence of a far

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that of potential rivals is by many measures growing rather than shrinking. 85

**Specifically decline causes lashout**

**Goldstein ‘07**

(Avery, Professor of Global Politics and International Relations @ University of Pennsylvania, “Power transitions, institutions, and China's rise in East Asia: Theoretical expectations and evidence,” Journal of Strategic Studies, Volume 30, Issue 4 & 5 August)

Two closely related, though distinct, theoretical arguments focus explicitly on the consequences for

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provides grounds for concern about the period prior to the possible crossover.19

## Oil Spills Advantage

#### Specifically, Gulf’s ecosystems on the brink—resilience is unraveling now

Craig ’11 – Attorneys’ Title Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Environmental Programs at Florida State University

(Robin Kundis, “Legal Remedies for Deep Marine Oil Spills and Long-Term Ecological Resilience: A Match Made in Hell”, Brigham Young University Law Review, 2011, http://lawreview.byu.edu/articles/1326405133\_03craig.fin.pdf)

These results suggest that we should be very concerned for the Gulf ecosystems affected by

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that accomplish no less than a fundamental transformation of its safety culture.” 173

#### Pemex inexperience with deepwater drilling ensures catastrophic failure – US economic engagement is key

Will Rogers (Research Assistant at the CNAS, Center for New American Security) February 2012 “U.S.-Mexico Offshore Oil Agreement May Help Mexico Rejuvenate Oil Production” <http://www.cnas.org/blogs/naturalsecurity/2012/02/us-mexico-offshore-oil-agreement-may-help-mexico-rejuvenate-oil-produc>

The United States and Mexico have come to an agreement that would allow both countries

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if those revenues translate into government programs that help bring about that stability.

#### This prevents widespread environmental disasters in the Gulf

John Broder and Clifford Krauss (writers for Hispanic Business) February 2012 “U.S.-Mexico Agreement Paves the Way for Drilling” http://www.hispanicbusiness.com/2012/2/21/usmexico\_agreement\_paves\_the\_way\_for.htm

In response, Mexico's national oil company, Petroleos Mexicanos, known as Pemex,

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, personnel, equipment and technology are essential for safe and productive drilling."

#### The plan is a springboard for broader environmental protection in the Gulf

Brown and Meachem 13 (Neil Brown and Carl Meachem, Senior Advisor at Goldwyn Global Strategies and Director of CSIS, The Hill, 6-5-13, “Time for US- Mexico Transboundary Agreement”, http://thehill.com/opinion/op-ed/303739-time-for-us-mexico-transboundary-agreement)

The United States-Mexico Transboundary Agreement (TBA) would enable cooperation between our

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partners. That is good for Mexico and for the U.S.¶

#### This model spillsover globally

Nick Snow (writer for the Oil & Gas Journal) May 2013 “House panel begins US-Mexico Trans-boundary treaty discussions” http://www.ogj.com/articles/print/volume-111/issue-5/general-interest/house-panel-begins-us-mexico-trans.html

Lamborn also said he was disappointed that the Obama administration took more than 1 year

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an expensive decision, in turn reducing opportunities for new jobs for Americans."

#### Ocean biodiversity prevents extinction

Craig ‘03

Associate Prof Law, Indiana U School Law, 2003

(McGeorge Law Review, 34 McGeorge L. Rev. 155 Lexis)

Biodiversity and ecosystem function arguments for conserving marine ecosystems also exist, just as they

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kill ourselves, and we will take most of the biosphere with us.