# 1AC

**Plan**

**The United States federal government should ratify the Transboundary Hydrocarbons Agreement with Mexico.**

**Inherency**

**Contention 1 Inherency**

House and Senate have not agreed on a bill yet, must pass now- deadline approaching

Dlouhy 10-21 Oil industry retreats on foreign payments waiver Posted on October 21, 2013 at 3:15 pm by Jennifer A. Dlouhy in Gulf of Mexico, [Jennifer A. Dlouhy covers energy policy, politics and other issues for The Houston Chronicle and other Hearst Newspapers from Washington, D.C. Previously, she reported on legal affairs for Congressional Quarterly. She also has worked at The Beaumont Enterprise, The San Antonio Express-News and other newspapers.] Politics/Policy http://fuelfix.com/blog/2013/10/21/oil-industry-retreats-on-foreign-payments-waiver/

The oil industry has backed away from its insistence on a financial reporting waiver as

AND

and the agency is working with stakeholders as it writes a new one.

**Stability**

**Advantage one is stability**

**Drilling along US-Mexico border inevitable ----- only a question of cooperation or unilateral development --- This avoids international disputes**

**Urdaneta ’10** – associate at Grau Garcia Hernandez & Monaco (Law Firm)

(Karla, “TRANSBOUNDARY PETROLEUM RESERVOIRS: A RECOMMENDED APPROACH FOR THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO IN THE DEEPWATERS OF THE GULF OF MEXICO”, Houston Journal of International Law, Volume 32, Number 2, Spring 2010)

In view of this, Mexico is primarily concerned with reservoirs located outside the Western

AND

has led to beneficial results among other countries that have faced similar dilemmas.

#### Mexico is ready to drill

Unger 10-1 David J. Unger, Staff writer / October 1, 2013, Congress could undercut US-Mexico joint drilling deal in Gulf, CSMonitor, http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/Energy-Voices/2013/1001/Congress-could-undercut-US-Mexico-joint-drilling-deal-in-Gulf

"The motive for the US is 'We’re ready to drill, but we don't want to drill ourselves into a legal nightmare,'" said George Baker, publisher of Mexico Energy Intelligence, an industry newsletter based in Houston. "For Mexico, it’s 'We want to make certain our oil rights are protected so that if they start drilling on the US side – and discover crossborder oil – we have architecture in place to protects our interests."

#### Pemex production low now

National Geographic 10-2 David LaGesse For National Geographic Published October 2, 2013, Mexico’s Bid for Energy Reform Stirs Passion on Oil Patrimony, http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/energy/2013/10/131002-mexico-energy-reform-pemex-oil/

But Mexico's secure position among the world's top oil producers is eroding. Its old oil fields are depleting rapidly, and state-owned monopoly Petróleos Mexicanos, or Pemex, lacks both the money and technology to tap its substantial oil and natural gas reserves in the deepwater of the Gulf of Mexico and in the shale formations that run along much of the east coast. (

**PEMEX is failing due to lack of outside investment and infrastructure**

**Melgar ’12** – director of the Center for Sustainability and Business at EGADE Business School of the Tecnológico de Monterrey.

(Lourdes, “The Future of PEMEX”, Americas Quarterly, 2012, http://www.americasquarterly.org/node/3781)

Exploration and Production: The Keys to Deeper Reform The 2008 Energy Reform initiated the

AND

services companies such as the United Kingdom’s Petrofac Facilities Management winning the auction.

**Gulf of Mexico key to PEMEX production**

**Iliff ’12**

(Laurence, “Pemex Makes Its First Big Oil Find in Deep Gulf”, The Wall Street Journal, 8-29-2012, http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10000872396390444914904577619712736497598.html)

Mexican state-owned oil firm Petroleos Mexicanos, or Pemex, has made its

AND

Mexican side of the Gulf, but only under shared-risk contracts.

**But, PEMEX doesn’t have the expertise in deepwater drilling to exploit those resources**

**Melgar ’12** – director of the Center for Sustainability and Business at EGADE Business School of the Tecnológico de Monterrey.

(Lourdes, “The Future of PEMEX”, Americas Quarterly, 2012, http://www.americasquarterly.org/node/3781)

The challenge for PEMEX is to increase reserves and oil and gas production in areas

AND

; nor does it have the legal authority to force PEMEX to wait.

**PEMEX is critical to the Mexican economy ---- TBA reforms key to solve**

**Samples and Vittor ’12** – associate and partners at Hogan Lovells US LLP

(Tim R. and Jose Luis, “Energy Reform and the Future of Mexico’s Oil Industry: The Pemex Bidding Rounds and Integrated Service Contracts”, Texas Journal of Oil, Gas, and Energy Law, 6-21-2012, http://tjogel.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/Samples-Formatted\_Final\_June13.pdf)

In recent years, Latin America has seen an uptick in interest as a destination

AND

Mexican oil industry was passed in November 2008 (the Energy Reforms). 14

#### Declines in Mexican oil production result in escalating instability

**Barnes 11** [Joe, Bonner Means Baker Fellow James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy Rice University, “OIL AND U.S.–MEXICO BILATERAL RELATIONS”, April 29]

In summary, the slow decline of Mexican oil production, in and of itself

AND

Pemex’s development into something like Norway’s Statol would mark an important improvement.36

#### Nieto’s legitimacy is in question due to the failing Mexican economy- only PEMEX reforms solve

O’Sullivan ’12 – professor of international affairs at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government

(Meghan, served on the National Security Council from 2004 to 2007, and was deputy national security advisor for Iraq and Afghanistan, “Mexican Oil Reforms Are Vital on Both Sides of the Border”, reprinted from CFR at Bloomberg, 7-30-2012, http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-07-30/mexican-oil-reforms-are-vital-on-both-sides-of-the-border.html)

In recent days a coalition of Mexican advocacy groups has been protesting in front of

AND

oil by 2020, ceasing exports to the U.S. altogether.

#### Drug cartels instability will spill over throughout Latin America

Bonner ’10 – senior principal of the Sentinel HS Group

(Robert C., former administrator of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, “The New Cocaine Cowboys”, Foreign Affairs, July/August 2010, http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/66472/robert-c-bonner/the-new-cocaine-cowboys)

The recent headlines from Mexico are disturbing: U.S. consular official gunned

AND

powerful transnational drug cartels that threaten the stability of Central and South America.

#### That causes nuclear war, prolif, and terrorism

Manwaring 05 – adjunct professor of international politics at Dickinson

(Max G., Retired U.S. Army colonel, Venezuela’s Hugo Chávez

AND

and their associated problems endanger global security, peace, and prosperity.65

**Oil spills**

**Advantage two is oil spills**

**Deepwater oil accident inevitable in the Gulf of Mexico if Pemex acts alone**

**Shields ’12** – independent energy consultant

(David, “Q&A: Is Mexico Prepared for Deepwater Drilling in the Gulf?”, Inter-American Dialogue’s Latin American Energy Advisor, 2/20/2012, http://repository.unm.edu/bitstream/handle/1928/20477/Is%20Mexico%20Prepared%20for%20Deepwater%20Drilling%20in%20the%20Gulf.pdf?sequence=1)

They say that if a country does not defend its borders, then others will

AND

has come and gone. The next disaster is just waiting to happen.

#### Gulf’s ecosystems on the brink—plan key to solve another accident

**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

AND

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

**The plan solves ------ the TBA leads to safety coordination between the U.S. and Mexico**

**Broder and Krauss ’12** – business correspondents at the New York Times

(John M. and Clifford, “U.S. in Accord With Mexico on Drilling”, The New York Times, 2-20-2012, http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/21/world/americas/mexico-and-us-agree-on-oil-and-gas-development-in-gulf.html?\_r=1&ref=americas)

WASHINGTON — The United States and Mexico reached agreement on Monday on regulating oil and

AND

to argue that his policies have led to a surge in domestic production.

**Plan spills over past the border to environmental standardization in the entire Gulf of Mexico**

**Velarde ’12** – attorney and counselor-at-law

(Rogelio Lopez, held various positions at Pemex during 1988-1993, including that of Financial Advisor to the Finance Department, In-House Counsel in Houston, Texas, In-House Counsel in New York, and Head of the International Legal Department of Pemex. He was honored with the “Most Distinguished Attorney Award” of Pemex for the period 1990-1991, former Chairman of the Energy Committee of the Mexican Bar Association, and currently he is the President for the Latin America Chapter of the Association of the International Petroleum Negotiators (AIPN), as Visiting Professor of Judicial Process on the Mexican Legal Studies Program at the University of Houston Law Center, and he is currently the director of the Energy Law Seminar organized between the Universidad Iberoamericana and the Mexican Bar Association. “US-Mexican treaty on Gulf of Mexico transboundary reservoirs”, International Law Office, 3-19-2012, http://www.internationallawoffice.com/newsletters/Detail.aspx?g=b9326bf8-f27f-43ff-b45a-1b2b70ccb217&redir=1)

Pemex has indicated that it has no information to confirm the existence of a transboundary

AND

) would agree to harmonise applicable standards only in respect of transboundary reservoirs.

**Redundant inspection teams solve ---- US doesn’t need enviro regs**

**Baker ’12** – publisher of Mexico Energy Intelligence

(George, “Q&A: Is Mexico Prepared for Deepwater Drilling in the Gulf?”, Inter-American Dialogue’s Latin American Energy Advisor, 2/20/2012, http://repository.unm.edu/bitstream/handle/1928/20477/Is%20Mexico%20Prepared%20for%20Deepwater%20Drilling%20in%20the%20Gulf.pdf?sequence=1)

"The serious issues of corporate governance and regulation in the shadow of the Macondo

AND

safety and occupational safety to be carried out separately, by different teams."

**Gulf ecosystems are critical biodiversity hotspots and have a key effect on the world’s oceans**

**Brenner ‘8** –

(Jorge Brenner, “Guarding the Gulf of Mexico’s valuable resources”, SciDevNet, 3-14-2008, http://www.scidev.net/en/opinions/guarding-the-gulf-of-mexico-s-valuable-resources.html)

The Gulf Of Mexico is rich in biodiversity and unique habitats, and hosts the

AND

in the North Atlantic that helps to regulate the climate of western Europe.

**Ocean biod key to survival**

**Craig 3 - Attorneys’ Title Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Environmental Programs at Florida State University**

(Robin Kundis Craig, “ARTICLE: Taking Steps Toward Marine Wilderness Protection? Fishing and Coral Reef Marine Reserves in Florida and Hawaii,” McGeorge Law Review, Winter 2003, 34 McGeorge L. Rev. 155)

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

AND

its territory relatively pristine marine ecosystems that may be unique in the world.

**The brink is now to avoid extinction, their defense is a misinformation campaign and consensus goes aff. And, diversity’s a prerequisite to everything**

**Schroeder 10**, Ingrid Schroeder is a frequent blogger on environmental issues, she cites the UN’s Global Biodiversity Outlook report, the Australian Museum, and Dr Aaron Bernstein who is an author and a speaker at the Lowy Institute, Will biodiversity loss spell human extinction?, http://www.cohabitaire.com/2010/05/will-biodiversity-loss-spell-human-extinction/

Will biodiversity loss spell human extinction? In short, yes, we are potentially

AND

diseases such as cancer are only possible using complex molecules found in nature.

**Any defense from 2011 is obsolete -- their studies’ methodologies have been debunked and the most recent and conclusive consensus goes aff**

**Science Daily 11** ("Biodiversity Critical for Maintaining Multiple 'Ecosystem Services'" Cites McGill University, August 19, www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2011/08/110819155422.htm)

By combining data from 17 of the largest and longest-running biodiversity experiments,

AND

that conserving as much biodiversity as possible could be a good precautionary approach."

**Resiliency is wrong specifically for the Gulf of Mexico—any shock can be the tipping point**

**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)

Ecological resilience and resilience theory acknowledge that ecosystems are dynamic—not, as prior

AND

oil spill in U.S. waters, however, suggests otherwise.