

Why Is Congress Nuking Northeast Gasoline Reserve As Part Of Bill To Avert Shutdown?



BY TYLER DURDEN

SUNDAY, MAR 03, 2024 - 07:00 PM

On Sunday night, Congressional negotiators revealed a bill which will fund key parts of the government through the rest of the fiscal year which began in October.



The [1,050-page legislation](#) sets a discretionary spending level of **\$1.66 trillion** for FY24, which comes just days after lawmakers passed the fourth stopgap measure since Oct. 1 to keep the government funded a bit longer.

According to Senate majority leader Chuck Schumer's office, the bill "maintains the aggressive investments Democrats secured for American families, American workers, and America's national defense."

House Speaker Mike Johnson said in a statement that "House Republicans secured key conservative policy victories, rejected left-wing proposals, and imposed sharp cuts to agencies and programs critical to the President Biden's agenda."

But what neither of them mention is that the bill also nukes the entire Northeast Gasoline Supply Reserve - which, at roughly 1 million barrels, is too small to matter on a national scale - but which could serve as a critical cache of energy in the event of another major disaster.



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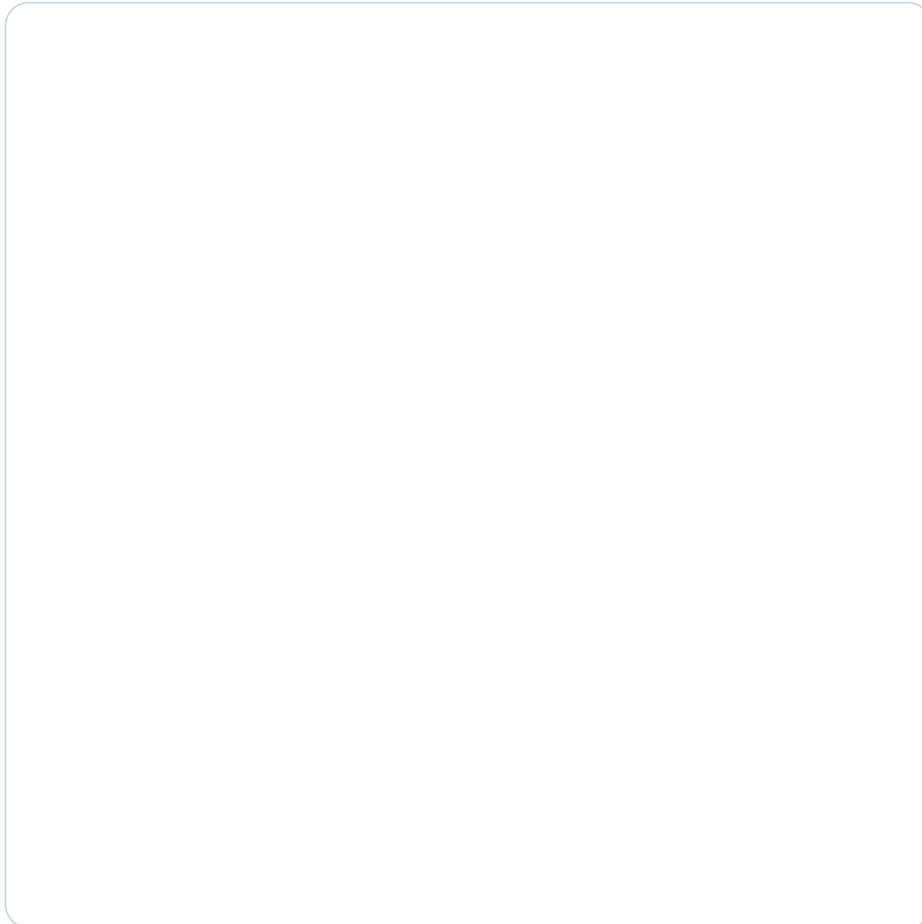
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The entire US 1 million barrel Northeast Gasoline Supply Reserve will be required to be sold and closed in fiscal 2024, according to bill text of government funding legislation unveiled Sunday

Did China write this bill?

docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/...



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The Northeast Gasoline Supply Reserve was established in 2014 following Hurricane Sandy, which cut through refineries and fuel terminals resulting in **fuel shortages** in some parts of the northeast. The rationale for draining it is that it "does not have the operational functionality that was envisioned post-Sandy," former President Trump said of the supply in 2017.

Russell Brown 

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In particular, the Northeast Gasoline Supply Reserve, created after Hurricane Sandy interrupted supplies.

This will make the northeast again vulnerable to disruptions from hurricanes or another cyberattack on the Colonial Pipeline.

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What's more, **once the reserve is drained, the bill mandates that the entire thing will be shut down.**

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The "government funding bill" is 1050 pages and orders the sale of all emergency stocks from the US gasoline supply reserve.

Who wrote this?

Who knew this?

What else are they trying to pull in the last minute.

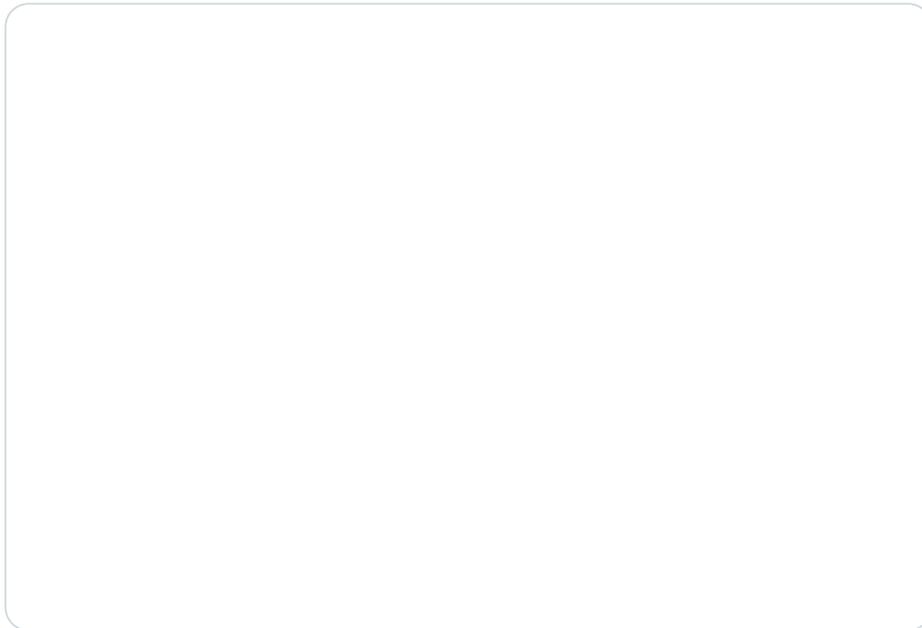
Where is Grok on this?

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Not just sell it, they then have to close the entire reserve infrastructure it looks like.



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Then, the bill makes it *even harder* to establish regional reserves in the future - requiring several new layers of red tape.

16 (d)(1) The Secretary of Energy may not establish any
17 new regional petroleum product reserve unless funding for
18 the proposed regional petroleum product reserve is explic-
19 itly requested in advance in an annual budget submitted
20 by the President pursuant to section 1105 of title 31,
21 United States Code, and approved by the Congress in an
22 appropriations Act.

23 (2) The budget request or notification shall include—

24 (A) the justification for the new reserve;

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1 (B) a cost estimate for the establishment, oper-
2 ation, and maintenance of the reserve, including
3 funding sources;

4 (C) a detailed plan for operation of the reserve,
5 including the conditions upon which the products
6 may be released;

Is the government *trying* to cause another disaster? This supply is so small but crucial for its intended purpose that we're in 'just why?' territory.



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RIP the Northeast when a Hurricane or Blizzard hit. Hope you charge them EV cars up before hand. With the regional fuel mix requirements this could actually get messy.

Meyers.™

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a diesel engine tow will be expensive when your crappy EV is stranded with no charge.

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Whelp, if this was completed and there was a regional level issue there wouldn't be any Diesel available. Double whammy.

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John Barton

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irresponsible at best. No one who inserted that should be in government.

“Upon the completion of such sale, the Secretary 14 shall carry out the closure of the Northeast Gasoline Supply Reserve”

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And the SPR is currently the lowest it's been since the mid 80s

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