

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Friday, April 06, 2012 <u>PERMALINK</u> CONTACT: <u>Spencer Pederson</u>, <u>Crystal Feldman</u>, or <u>Jill Strait</u> 202-226-9019

## **Chairman Hastings Statement on March Jobs Report**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Doc Hastings (WA-04) released the following statement after the Bureau of Labor Statistics released the March unemployment report:

"With March job creation significantly underperforming experts' anticipations, ever higher gasoline prices are a growing threat to job creation and the cost of life for American families. The jobs created in March are certainly welcome, but hundreds of thousands of Americans were left searching for a job last month as job creators and small businesses couldn't hire as they struggle to pay skyrocketing fuel prices. Since taking office, gasoline prices have doubled under President Obama, which has diverted billions of dollars away from hiring new employees and helped keep the national unemployment rate consistently above eight percent.

House Republicans have passed a true bipartisan, all-of-the-above energy plan that will create over a million jobs and contribute billions to the Treasury, help lower gasoline prices and make American more energy secure. Unlike for President Obama, an all-of-the-above energy plan is not a conveniently timed campaign slogan to House Republicans—it's a real plan to put Americans back to work and reduce our dangerous dependence on foreign energy."

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