

## Mister President: Do the Opposite

February 11, 2024

I've written a similar title before. There is a Seinfeld episode where George complains to Jerry, "**that every decision i make turns out wrong.**"

Jerry's response is, "**do the opposite.**"

This administration should follow that advice.

On energy, for example, increase leasing and keep to the schedules. Offer the better acreage. Make sure federal regulations support domestic supply. Maximize SPR purchases and take a fresh look at EV regulations.

Outside of energy, we should never tip off our enemies in advance. It puts Americans at risk and dilutes the results.

In Afghanistan, it was the way we got out. We didn't listen to our generals that closing the base first would be a mistake.

For the first three years we heard the border was secure. We knew it wasn't.

There is so much more. However, Mister President, if you followed the rule "do the opposite," I might think of even voting for you.

---

*Larry Goldstein ([larryg@eprinc.org](mailto:larryg@eprinc.org)) is an internationally recognized authority on petroleum markets, and has extensive advisory relationships with energy companies, research institutes, and government agencies. He is a former president of the Petroleum Industry Research Foundation (PIRINC) now the Energy Policy Research Foundation (EPRINC), its successor organization, and continues to be on EPRINC's Board of Trustees. He was a founder and president of the PIRA Energy Group, a major energy consulting firm that was acquired by S&P Global in 2016.*

*He has testified numerous times before congressional committees and regulatory bodies and has been appointed to the National Petroleum Council (NPC) by every recent U.S. Secretary of Energy. He has briefed the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, senior officials at the Government Accountability Office, and a wide range of government agencies on developments in domestic and world petroleum markets. He has also served as consultant to the Iraq Coalition Provisional Authority. During the 1970s and 1980s he frequently appeared on the CBS Evening News anchored by Walter Cronkite.*