

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON GLOBALIZATION

Contact: Victor Menotti: 415.351.8065 vmenotti@ifg.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 7, 2010

ENERGY ANALYSTS CALL ON PRESIDENT OBAMA TO ABANDON HALLIBURTON AGENDA AT TPP TRADE TALKS IN SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco, California:

As trade ministers prepare to meet next week in San Francisco to advance the proposed [Trans-Pacific Partnership](#), energy analysts from the San Francisco-based International Forum on Globalization (IFG) are calling on President Obama to declare as “off the table” any lingering [Bush-Cheney proposals](#) for worldwide deregulation of drilling and other energy services. The outsourcing disaster created by BP, Halliburton and other energy services companies — which continues gushing countless barrels of oil into one of the world’s most lucrative fisheries — should be a painful lesson learned for what to avoid when the United States hosts TPP trade talks during the week of June 14-18: deregulated drilling.

WHO: Victor Menotti, International Forum on Globalization (featured speaker, also available for interview in advance or at event listed below)

WHAT: Calls on the US Trade Representative to drop any Halliburton-style proposals to deregulate drilling and other energy services in TPP, as part of a larger call for fair trade other advocates, including: *Carl Pope, Chairman of the Sierra Club; Art Pulaski; President, California Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO; Zeke Grader, Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Associations; Tim Robertson, California Fair Trade Coalition; and more*

WHEN: June 14, 10am

WHERE: St. Patrick’s Catholic Church (756 Mission Street)

WHY: San Francisco’s TPP talks are the first opportunity for President Obama to unveil his new fair trade agenda, but some trade policy analysts fear a return to previous proposals championed by Halliburton. Those proposals call for global deregulation of energy services, specifically the cement-casing and testing services that failed in the BP oil spill. According to IFG Executive Director, Victor Menotti, “democratic control over energy policies is a global imperative to address today’s converging economic and ecological crises. New trade policies are needed to ensure governments can protect our ecosystems and the livelihoods they sustain economically. In light of the BP disaster, we call on US officials to take off the table any proposals to liberalize and deregulate energy, environmental, and other essential services in the TPP.”