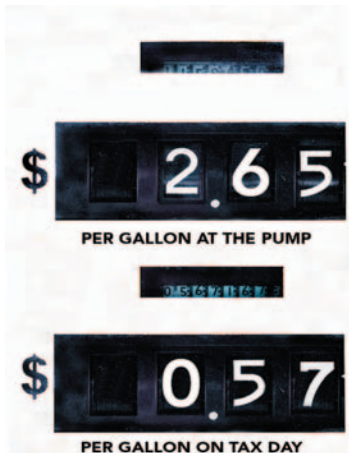


The Hidden Cost of Gasoline



The United States uses approximately 390 million gallons of gasoline every day, a large proportion of which comes from imported oil.

While the price fluctuates, **the average price of gasoline is about \$2.65 per gallon.**

There is an additional hidden cost to our gasoline – something that isn't included in the price at the pump. The added cost is the \$215.4 billion each year that the U.S. military spends of our tax dollars to secure access to imported energy.

This means, in addition to the \$2.65/gallon price of gasoline, we pay an extra \$0.57 for each of the 142 billion gallons of gasoline we use every year.

\$215.4 billion represents nearly 30% of the federal defense budget just to gain access to foreign energy. This is one year's worth of troops, weaponry, and most of the Iraq war funded by taxpayer dollars.

What if that money instead paid for renewable energy technology and jobs here at home?

For more information about the nation's energy priorities, visit National Priorities Project at http://www.nationalpriorities.org/Energy_Security.

