

New

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JEFF R. BRANICK
County Judge



January 16, 2013

Mr. John A. Anderson
Manager, Natural Gas Regulatory Activities
U.S. Department of Energy (FE-34)
Office of Oil & Gas Global Supply & Security
Forrestal Building, Room 3E-042, FE-50
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

RE: Golden Pass Products, LLC
Application for Long-Term Authorization to Export Liquefied Natural Gas
FE Docket No. 12-156-LNG

Dear Mr. Anderson:

On behalf of Jefferson County, I am writing in support of the Golden Pass Products, LLC application for long-term authorization to export liquefied natural gas to non-Free Trade Agreement countries.

Golden Pass Products, LLC is proposing to invest approximately \$10 billion in infrastructure to expand the Golden Pass LNG facility, an existing import terminal positioned on the Sabine-Neches Waterway in Sabine Pass, Texas. The project would export LNG to Free Trade Agreement and non-Free Trade Agreement countries. An investment of such significance would be a key economic driver for our region by creating thousands of jobs, increasing tax revenues and generating extensive indirect economic benefits.

Jefferson County has benefited tremendously from the ongoing operations of Golden Pass LNG. Golden Pass has provided jobs, invested in community development, helped with environmental restoration efforts and assisted with hurricane relief efforts.

The initial construction and operation of the Golden Pass LNG import terminal created local jobs and employed the local workforce. Federal approval to export LNG and the

expansion of the Golden Pass LNG facility would generate more jobs for the local workforce and create significant economic benefits for the community, our state and our nation.

The strong relationship between Golden Pass and Jefferson County has been forged through mutual respect and commitment. Golden Pass has demonstrated the value of investing in the local community by funding the construction of a \$1.5 million community center in Sabine Pass. Other investments include the creation of coastal wetlands for the protection and restoration of wildlife habitats in the surrounding areas.

Golden Pass has demonstrated its commitment to the safety of its employees and the surrounding community. This excellent safety record is critical to our community in its partnership with industry.

Golden Pass Products has much to offer the future of Jefferson County and the United States. I strongly encourage the U.S. Department of Energy to promptly approve the Golden Pass Products application to export LNG to non-FTA countries.

Sincerely,



Honorable Jeff Branick
County Judge
Jefferson County, Texas