Please accept the attached comments concerning the 2012 LNG Export Study. Please let me know if you have any difficulty with the attachment.

Thank you.
January 24, 2013

The Honorable Steven Chu
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Chu:

In regards to the NERA’s LNG Export Study, I am a concerned citizen, a part of the microsystem of the larger public interest because I work and have property in a town where a Canadian-base company hopes to build a liquefaction and exporting for natural gas. It didn’t make sense when the facility was first proposed as an importing facility at least five years ago, and it makes less sense now as an exporting facility. This change in function of the facility emphasizes how difficult it is to make any long range forecasts without doing more careful research, especially when these studies are used as a basis for decisions affecting so many people and places.

If the national goal is to be energy-independent, exporting a finite resource is counterproductive. My concern is not the import-export balance sheet, or the natural gas company’s bottom line. I am concerned about the effects of exportation on the local economy and the environmental and quality of life costs:

1. at the place of extraction where the earth is “fracked” to release the natural gas,
2. at the areas where the transporting pipeline travels,
3. at the site of the liquefaction facility, usually an ocean port, and
4. with the LNG tankers transporting the LNG overseas.

I have read and agree with Senator Ron Wyden’s letter commenting on and critical of NERA Economic Consulting’s study “Macroeconomic Impacts of LNG Export from the United States.” Senator Wyden has legitimate concerns with the process as well as the inadequacies of the Study and the lack of emphasis on the economic and environmental negatives of an LNG facility to this country. Please do not make decisions affecting my community based on such a flawed Study, and please keep the public interest foremost in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

Lynne Leisy