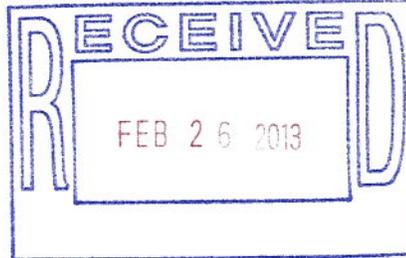


William Bechtel

Secretary Steven Chu  
2012 LNG Export Study  
U.S. Department of Energy (FE-34)  
Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities  
Office of Fossil Energy  
P.O. Box 44375  
Washington, DC 20026-4375



Dear Secretary Chu,

The growth of industry and jobs that will result if we export natural gas is endless. The country must find its way out of the current economic climate. For this reason, I urge you to follow the results of your own studies, ignore the opposition from Representative Ed Markey, and approve this measure. Our citizens deserve the high quality of life that manufacturing provides.

As a letter carrier in Des Moines for thirty-five years, I can safely say that we have survived the ups and downs of the American economy very well. The reason is the strong presence of the insurance industry. Most do not know this, but more insurance companies are based in Des Moines than in Omaha, Nebraska. Principal Life Insurance alone employs six thousand. Their buildings are about to be renovated to the tune of \$3 million. The city is expanding at such a rapid rate it is almost touching Waukee to the west. Entire home developments sprout up constantly. One part of downtown was almost vacant five years ago, but it is now full of bustling restaurants that take up five blocks. We have two large arenas, a Veterans auditorium and a civic hall for concerts and guest speakers. The great feeling of prosperity is felt by small businesses, construction workers, and trades. That is what happens when industry thrives.

Natural gas is the fuel of the future. We are so fortunate to have an abundance of it. MidAmerican Energy, which is based in Davenport and serves much of the state, uses natural gas for their fleet of trucks. FedEx and UPS are jumping in, as well. These engines run great and the emissions are minimal compared to diesel. We must make the most of our prized resources. The time is now to approve the exportation of liquefied natural gas. Let the rest of the country experience the great success that cities such as Des Moines are enjoying.

Best regards,

William Bechtel