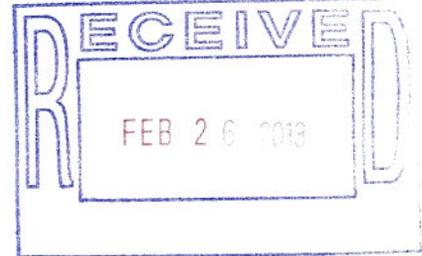


02/08/2013

Marjorie Matthews

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 citizens of this country wait with bated breath for the day we become energy independent. It seems each and every attempt is thwarted no matter how hard we try. Whether it is the Keystone pipeline, expanded offshore drilling, or fracking for natural gas, we are stymied. Just as you were poised to approve the exportation of liquefied natural gas, a Democratic leader on the Natural Resources Committee, Ed Markey, has written to you, requesting you delay your approval. A small contingency is opposed to the measure, fearing a threat to its own self-interest. This small opposition should not have the power to dissuade you.

Many residents of Ballwin, Missouri, commute to St. Louis for work. Our area was hit hard when the Chrysler plant closed and the structure was torn down. If that were not enough, we then lost the ability to take direct flights from the local airport. These closures resulted in untold job losses as corporations left the area. It is like the steel industry all over again. My husband was a sales manager for Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel in West Virginia. The firm eventually transferred him to St. Louis. It was not long before my husband had had no customers to sell to because they could import foreign steel for less cost than American steel. The industry began its exodus overseas. It is pitiful how difficult it is to purchase an American made product anymore. I try, but we have become a country of importers. A first world economy cannot survive without exporting.

Our energy needs rely on nations that are increasingly unstable. We can alleviate this dependency, create thousands of jobs, and add billions in revenue to our coffers with your approval of exportation of liquefied natural gas. It is unquestionably the right thing to do for America. Please approve this measure sooner rather than later.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Matthews