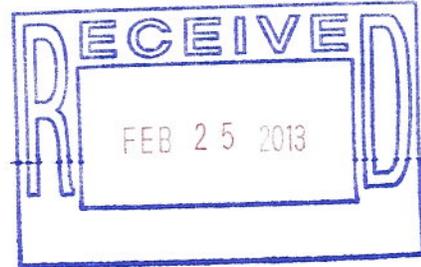


Bob Kearney

Feb 17, 2013

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:

In the Poconos community, the economic climate has deteriorated. There are only a couple of places that offer a decent wage including the Tobyhanna Army Depot where I worked for thirty-eight years until my retirement in October. However, there are no jobs available and the seasonal business we rely on to prop us up has declined over the last four years or so. The chance to rebuild and recover by exporting American's surplus natural gas is a welcomed opportunity that should be a top priority.

The Scranton and Wilkes-Barre region is where I grew up during a prosperous period in our history. Jobs were good and plentiful in those days. We had stable employers such as RCA who maintained plants and factories that employed two or three thousand workers at each site. Sadly, those companies have moved south or shipped their operations overseas taking the jobs with them. Factories and warehouses that once thrived now sit vacant and blight those neighborhoods.

Liquefying natural gas for export will benefit other nations that need the energy as well as even our trade footing by leveling the playing field while creating new job opportunities. Currently, the U.S. imports more energy than we export. Given that our environmental standards are superior to those in other energy producing Gulf countries, we can do it more cleanly which protects air quality across the globe. To delay this prime opportunity at the request of Rep. Markey is unnecessary. America has got to be productive with our energy resources to attract industry to our area, and tax breaks for energy developers can be an added incentive to do more along with the export potential of LNG.

Thank you for your service,

Bob Kearney