

Feb 09, 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-

You have before you a proposal that may be our ticket out of this economic malaise. As the study published by your office concludes, the financial benefits of exporting natural gas are enormous. As the comment period comes to a close, please hear my support of the study, in spite of efforts to the contrary made by Representative Markey, who sees fit to extinguish a great new American export.

It is not every day that an opportunity such as this presents itself. We all know that the ability to export a product as expansive as natural gas on a global level will spur endless industries across the country. Lord knows, we need that. The state of Michigan is tragic. The rollercoaster ride known as the auto industry has devastated cities through the years. Detroit is so bad, it may never recover. The tentacles of unemployment reach the outlying cities of Warren, Sterling Heights, and Troy, as well. I was laid off five years ago from a plant that was a top tier manufacturer of hardware for GM and Ford. This company had thrived for over fifty years before it closed its doors. As with so many other ancillary industries associated with auto manufacturing, they die out when the big auto makers run into trouble. I gave up finding anything close to a decent replacement job and started collecting my social security. That was never my plan - I like to work - but I had no choice.

The number of foreclosures and shuttered businesses is frightful. My cul-de-sac of twelve homes has three to four foreclosures at any given time. We are tired of looking at gutted, boarded up houses with bank notices on every window. Blight is not a pretty sight. We must get a strong, solid, long-lasting industry back to our shores. I implore you to ignore the handful of well-funded, very vocal interests who oppose your approval of this great new industry.

Sincerely,

Cathy Kuchenbrod

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cathy Kuchenbrod".

Cathy Kuchenbrod

