

02/12/2013

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:

Currently living with my husband in Palm Coast, Florida, I would like to see more efforts in reviving the economy of this struggling area. The Department of Energy published a study in December that projects staggering economic benefits if the US were allowed to sell liquefied natural gas (LNG) to foreign countries. Representative Ed Markey has openly criticized the study in a letter sent to you. I believe that if he saw the number of homeless children in Flagler County, he would recommend authorization of LNG exports, as I do.

Flagler County's unemployment rate is nearing 12 percent. There are many vacant homes and approximately 62 percent of children go to school without lunches. What is even sadder is that many of these children are living in cars or trucks with their parents. I have gone past parking lots and seen this myself. Homelessness is high here and the state of Florida has the highest amount of foreclosures. The only industries we have are Walmart and some restaurants, which usually close down within 6 months of opening. I am surprised that Congressman Markey can oppose growth in jobs, money, and free trade so adamantly when Americans are barely hanging on by a thread. His complaints do not offer solutions; all they do is delay much-needed progress. Does he want the government to continue to take care of us and decide how much energy each person can use today, tomorrow, or the next day?

After working for 25 years as a supervisor of data entry for ITT Corporate Services, I am now retired. I do not wish to see children hungry and living in cars; we can no longer tolerate this struggling economy and all of the problems that accompany it. If exporting LNG and expanding natural gas production can turn our situation around, I would ignore the objections of an uninformed Congressman. The people of Flagler County are in need; please do not delay in authorizing LNG exports.

Thanks,

Delraine Kowalsky

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