



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 information you published on the economic benefit of exporting liquefied natural gas showed great promise. Although I have been retired for thirteen years, I was employed in accounting. The imbalance of trade that we are running is of major concern to me. We must do something to alleviate the margins of export to import and turn this around in our favor. A simple balance sheet will tell you that America cannot prosper without bringing more money into the country than we send overseas.

My son lives in Indiana and we have been talking about the deposits of natural gas there. Some residents are already using the natural gas found on their property to power their own homes. Although we do not have any supply locally that I am aware of, Indiana and many other states would profit by the increased demand that exporting would create.

In South Carolina, the unemployment rate is still too high and above the national average. We do have some industries in Greenville and Anderson that provide decent jobs, but overall our economy is not strong. Any investment in American manufacturing would help here, and in the entire country. Unlike Congressman Markey, I do not see that the negatives to exporting are that serious. The overall benefit of proceeding with exporting liquefied natural gas far overshadows any of his arguments. We should move forward as soon as possible and allow job growth and prosperity for our citizens.

Your constituent,

Frances Ballard