

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-

Although I have retired from the painting industry after thirty-three years, I also benefit from having a farm in Belmont County, Ohio. In recent years, there has been a discovery of natural gas in the shale deposit there, and it is currently being excavated. Many in that county have benefited from the job creation that has occurred due to the industry that grew up around natural gas extraction. Until the find, Belmont County had been suffering greatly, as many areas in this country continue to do.

Through its restrictive policies, the federal government has stymied natural gas production on all public lands. It is sad that their regulations have had such a terrible effect on our citizens. Personally, I try to share what I have with people in need, but it is only a drop in the bucket. People need stable, good paying jobs. Exporting liquefied natural gas (LNG) can furnish employment, while generating profits for private industry and reducing our trade imbalance. We have a surplus, and it needs to be traded in order to move our economy in the right direction.

The federal government, specifically the Department of Energy, needs to understand the benefits of exporting LNG. Naysayers like Congressman Ed Markey should put aside petty differences and realize how exportation of LNG benefits the entire United States and its citizens. With our economy in critical condition, we cannot afford to pass up LNG exportation. It could provide the medicine our ailing economy needs.

Thank you for your help,

George Lafaber



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