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

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FEB 20 2013

Dear Secretary Chu:

The unemployment rate in our area is at eight percent and the only jobs available pay minimum wage, which is not sufficient to support the needs of a family. We live right outside of Chicago, and the biggest industry is tourism. The symptoms of our economic malaise are all around us. Restaurants are closing right and left here, and an increasing amount of people are out of work. Americans need jobs. The natural gas boon has given us an opportunity that we should seize. Exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) would promote job growth. This is what this area and other parts of the country need, contrary to what Representative Markey would have you believe.

Now that we are both retired, the high cost of everyday living is a concern for us. Gerald worked for a brokerage firm, and I worked for thirty-seven years for United Airlines. The retirees of the airlines did receive some perks. As an example, we were given frequent flyer miles and Gerald and I would vacation in Hawaii, Amsterdam and Germany. However, we can no longer afford those trips because of the cost of jet fuel.

All in all, I believe that exporting natural gas to other countries will bring more high paying jobs, increase manufacturing and lessen our dependency on foreign energy. Like most other citizens, we are concerned about the economy. America has to get back on track and stop sending jobs and industries overseas. We truly need to start exporting LNG, and we urge you to allow this.

Thanks,

Gerald and Linda Cilona

Gerald - Linda Cilona

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Dear Secretary Chu:

As a retired nurse with over thirty-three years of work experience, I have spent most of my time concentrating on my career and my daily activities. Natural gas exportation is not an issue that has made a direct impact on my life. However, as a concerned citizen, I have seen all too often how governmental policies prevent our full use of natural resources. In fact, this current Administration seems to be giving too much credence to the objections of a few negative thinkers such as Representative Markey of Massachusetts. In reality, the vast majority of Americans believe that our surplus liquefied natural gas (LNG) should be exported. Doing so would benefit our economy.

In my town of Negaunee, Michigan, we have limited opportunities. The main industries consist of regional medical centers, state education institutions, logging operations, and ore mining. With limited jobs in these industries, my town and region have been horribly affected by the bad economy. LNG exportation may not directly benefit my town, but it could certainly mean a great deal to the engineering students who graduate from Michigan Tech and other institutions. Furthermore, we already have pipeline infrastructure in place that might figure into the long-term natural gas equation.

Sadly, the current Administration seems reluctant to do what it takes to implement solid, effective energy policies. The US Department of Energy and certain elected officials such as Representative Ed Markey need to understand the urgency in getting our economy on track. It is vital that we bring jobs back to our shores. We have the technology now to safely produce and transport LNG; there should be no question about having exports happen now.

Yours truly,

2/12/13

William Meeks