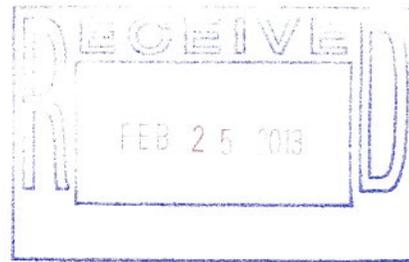


Feb 15, 2013

James Hodges

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-

There should not be any opposition to natural gas production or to exporting our excess in liquid form. As long as the existing natural gas companies are willing to export, there should not be any reason for Representative Ed Markey of Massachusetts to send you a letter of opposition. The Department of Energy must move to authorize LNG exports promptly.

Living in Louisville, most people in this part of the country have natural gas heating their homes. It is clean and efficient, and I have no problem with the way it is extracted because there is nothing wrong with hydraulic fracturing. My wife inherited farmland that has a natural gas well located on it. As owners of this private land, we are certainly fine with leasing it and earning money off of it. I think fracking should be done on public lands as well but only if it does not disturb national parks. Louisville's unemployment rate is at 8.5 percent, which is better than the eastern part of the state where the coal mines are shutting down and many have been laid-off. There are two large plants, Ford and General Electric, employing many people in this area.

If America has the opportunity to export LNG, then this is what we should be doing. We have plenty of it and selling our surplus will help balance our trade deficit. We are doing more importing than exporting these days and it must be reversed to create revenue flow in our own economy. I always make every effort not to purchase anything made in China, including from drop shippers for my gift and souvenir online business. We are inevitably financing their military, while reducing funds to our own military. I hope your department will authorize LNG exports.

Thank you,

James Hodges