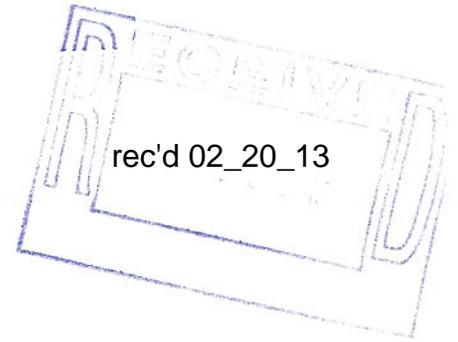


Janice Ben

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,

There are many things to love about the state of Montana, and the fact that we have an abundance of natural resources is the icing on the cake. Our economy is struggling, just like everywhere else, and the only way we are going to get back on our feet is to utilize these valuable resources. Production and exportation of excess liquefied natural gas is a good start.

In the forty years my husband, Fred, and I have lived here, we have seen a lot of growth. However, there has been a steady decline in recent years that has hurt many local residents. This past year, it has started to turn back around and I would like to see the momentum continue.

Natural gas is a wonderful resource, especially during blustery cold winters when the temperature where we live can sometimes plummet to thirty or forty below zero. It is an affordable way to keep our home warm. Why not capitalize on this precious resource? Ignore the negative report Representative Ed Markey has created and listen to the citizens. Exporting liquefied natural gas would help our nation in a myriad of ways, and I am counting on you to take advantage of this opportunity.

Regards,

Janice Bent