

Feb 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:

I agree with the Department of Energy's study showing the economic advantage of exporting liquefied natural gas. They shouldn't waste any time approving the exports. Even though Congressman Ed Markey wrote a letter stating his disagreement, this study shows how natural gas will have a nationwide positive economic influence. If we can produce natural gas to meet our nation's needs and more, the excess should be exported.

Jobs and the economy should be top priority when government agencies make policies. Regulations are important, but in this country they are too rigid, and they are doing more harm than good. Wind and solar are good ideas, but they are not supplying our demand. We need our natural resources to be energy independent and create jobs.

There are not many industries left in this area since the steel industry and a major brick company left. There is some biodiesel and ethanol production in the vicinity, along with soybean crops for the biodiesel. Many residents have left the area and relocated for employment because jobs are scarce here. Currently, I am a semi-retired minister. I know there are people in this area that are having a hard time. If there is increased production of natural gas, it could possibility reopen factories and it would definitely create more jobs here and nationwide. Exporting our surplus natural gas just makes sense.

Yours truly,

Jerry Ostrom


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