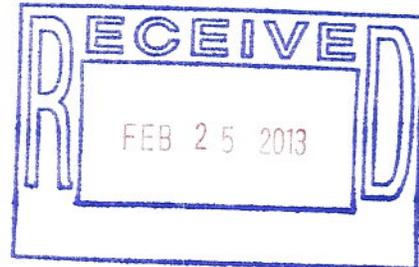


Lester Schmaltz

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:

Congressman Ed Markey is just plain wrong to try to stop the exportation of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to other countries. I would encourage him to review the facts. The increase in jobs and taxes, in addition to profits to US companies, would be astounding with LNG distribution.

A retired engineer from Exxon Mobile Corporation, I see the market trend going toward natural gas. If we expect to compete, we had better roll with it. Particularly in Houston, we have been sheltered from the recession due to heavy oil and gas development. Energy exports can lift this entire nation out of our trade deficit and economic slump, while giving Americans much-needed jobs.

In my ever-challenging career at Exxon, there was always something for me to do. I was treated excellently and was able to support a wife and three kids. My experience in the natural resources field is a testament to its viability. Believe me, LNG exportation is the right direction for our economy here in Houston and everywhere else in the United States. I encourage you to implement the plans you proposed for LNG distribution abroad.

Thank you,

Lester Schmaltz