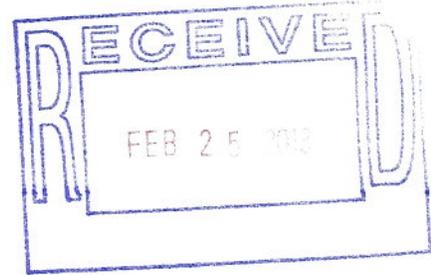


Lowell Green

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-

We must take action to rectify the balance of trade in this country. We are experiencing a huge trade deficit, but we are also purchasing from countries that are hostile and from those that pay their people next to nothing for their labor. Currently, we import far more than we sell abroad. The United States needs to add taxes on imported items and make them more costly. Through the introduction of liquefied natural gas exports, we have a chance to even the playing field, decrease exporting from hostile countries, and bolster US manufacturing. Congressman Markey's critical letter to your department obviously does not touch on these issues. The Department of Energy's authorization of LNG exports is necessary.

Your published study discusses an uptick in jobs, including positions in engineering. That certainly hits home with me, as I am a retired mechanical engineer for a textile plant and my son-in-law is an engineer for Duke Energy. Growth in this field is always encouraging. Before retiring 15 years ago, I was sent to Mexico to help set up the computers for a new plant that was being built. Obviously, many industries have moved abroad where regulation is minimal and manufacturing is cheaper. I would like to see these industries come back. In Elon, North Carolina, although the unemployment is over nine percent, there is talk of manufacturing companies expanding here and offering additional jobs. Incentives from taxpayers are helping to persuade them.

An increase in liquefied natural gas production is another incentive for manufacturing companies to expand in the US. An energy policy should always factor in jobs, the economy, and the environment. If we have enough natural gas to cover ourselves, then we should sell the excess to make money and create jobs while maintaining our environment. I hope you will authorize LNG exports.

Thank you,

Lowell Green