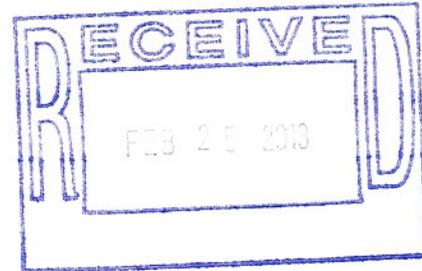


02/12/2013

Mark Conrad

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-

Since I have a keen interest in the uses for liquefied natural gas and the benefits it can bring to the American economy, I am astounded by the objections of Rep. Ed Markey. He needs to look at the greater good. The United States Department of Energy will surely still be able to cut the wheat from the chaff and allow the exportation of liquefied natural gas. America really needs to expand development of natural gas and turn a profit from our surplus.

Having been a fleet manager for many years before I retired, I am all too aware of how the high cost of fuel impacts many businesses. My wife and I live in the upper corner of South Dakota and have family that is close by in surrounding states. South Dakota has wide open spaces as do our surrounding states, so we are probably more dependent on fossil fuel than people who live in large cities. We have a mall in the area, but the next closest mall is ~~50~~ 350 miles away. Gasoline alone is a large portion of our budget. That makes us very dependent on fossil fuel and is why I think natural gas will be a great alternative. The best feature of natural gas is that it burns clean.

We all need to need to act in the best interest of America. My wife and I make every effort to only buy American-made products. The government needs to act in the best interest of all Americans too. Allowing the exportation of liquefied natural gas is definitely a step in the right direction.

Thank you for your help,

Mark Conrad