

Feb 10, 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,

Having moved to the Decatur area just three years ago, I probably don't have the best long-term view of how the economy has affected this area. However, I do still see numerous vacant homes and many people out of work. We definitely need to come up with something that would stabilize our economy. Exporting liquefied natural gas (LNG) seems like a good way to do that. Why Representative Ed Markey is opposed to this innovation I will never know.

When I was a girl, I recall that almost all the products you saw in the stores were made in America. Now you are lucky if you can find anything manufactured in this country. It seems as though we are becoming more and more dependent on foreign countries for all our goods. Although I realize that we will probably never go back to the good old days, I still think we could see a lot of progress to making ourselves independent of other countries if we harvest, use and export natural gas. This would also create new jobs. We all know there are far too many Americans out of work or being laid off. Even our college graduates are having a hard time finding work.

This situation affects all of us. Take my husband and me for example. We were just married three years ago, and I don't know what we would do if we didn't have two retirement incomes. Mine, after 25 years as a chicken plant processor, is not a substandard one. With the rising costs in this economy, I could not make it on my own. Thankfully, we use low cost natural gas for heating and cooking.

LNG is a cleaner, more efficient fuel. We in America should be using more of it. And with any luck, we will also be exporting our surplus. Hopefully, the US Department of Energy will agree so that we can begin to turn our country around.

Best,

Martha Kilpatrick