

Paul Kleemeier



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-

Despite the comments in the letter sent to you by Representative Ed Markey, exporting liquefied natural gas (LNG) obviously has many benefits. The exporting company benefits from the additional money it will have to hire more employees. Furthermore, exporting LNG will help our balance of trade, which is woefully uneven. Developing, producing and exporting our abundant supply of natural gas will also persuade manufacturing industries to become a major factor in righting our economy.

Some say the economy here in the Cincinnati area has improved, but many are still struggling to find good jobs. I am fortunate in that I retired about two years ago after working in the insurance business for over thirty years. At one time, there were many, many manufacturing companies in the area. They are now gone. There are numerous smaller retail businesses along with Proctor & Gamble, which is probably the biggest employer in town, but they have sold their manufacturing division. GE once employed as many as 16,000; they now employ only about 5,000. Recently, I read an article about the effort in Louisiana to use natural gas, a relatively inexpensive energy, for iron ore production and the manufacture of steel. This is just one example of how developing our natural gas resources will benefit our country.

Youngstown recently opened a factory to manufacture pipe for hydraulic fracturing which will positively affect northeast Ohio. Although there is no drilling or production in southwest Ohio, our overall economy will benefit from this type of development. We do have natural gas available for household use; I use it for home heating and also for heating our water. I have also heard talk of some vehicles being converted to natural gas. This is an efficient, clean burning energy source that is in great demand worldwide. It seems only reasonable that the United States export its excess natural gas. Please support this proposal.

Thank you for your help.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Kleemeier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Paul Kleemeier