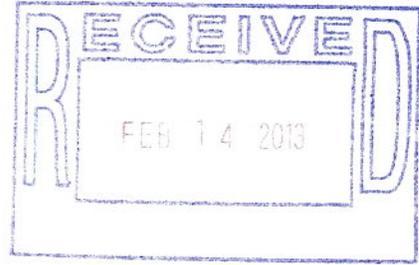


Phyllis Nash



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,

My husband and I are both retired and live in a very rural area. Although we have a North Dakota mailing address, our residence is actually in South Dakota. We are closer to the post office in Hettinger than we are to any in our state. No matter which state we might consider to be our home, there are numerous national issues that deserve prompt attention, with energy security being right at the top of the list. We are importing far too much in this country. Fortunately, the oil drilling in our area has provided a good economic benefit while lessening our energy dependence on other countries. We need to make the most of plentiful resources such as this in order to strengthen and enhance our position in the world.

The letter of opposition that Representative Ed Markey sent you is of interest to me. It criticized the study your department recently conducted and denied the veracity of its findings. It is curious to see that one of his concerns involves natural gas escaping into the atmosphere and causing damage. It is common in this area to see flares of unused natural gas from oil production burning. It would be a far better option to capture that gas and export it rather than losing it into the atmosphere. There are ways and means to effectively capture it while ensuring that the amount escaping into the air would be minimal. It would seem that this method would be much less of a risk than burning it would.

The local economy is very good due to the increased production of oil. Unfortunately, that is not the case in many places in our country. Allowing the exportation of liquefied natural gas would be profitable, as the economic study projected, and would help to get our national economy going again. Although our supply is abundant, we should not allow untapped natural gas to be squandered without trying to make the most of it. We need to go ahead with this initiative and sell the natural gas we do not need for the good of all of our citizens.

Best regards,

Phyllis Nash
Phyllis Nash