

Johnson

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:

In my time here in New York, I have seen state and federal policies that have hampered industries from being competitive by preventing them from making full use of the resources we have right here at home. As a result, jobs have been lost and our economy has suffered. I am a retired mechanical engineer with over thirty years of experience in the computer field working for IBM. Today, it is rare for young people to find jobs that are as lucrative and stable as mine was. Allowing exportation of liquefied natural gas (LNG) could move us back toward creating employment opportunities of this quality.

Here in Johnson City, New York, the job picture is quite bad. Many residents have to go across the state line to Pennsylvania in order to work. Ironically, much of the work involves extracting shale to make natural gas. Where I'm located, there are actually shale deposits that have not been exploited due to state and federal policies. It really makes no sense not to take advantage of a resource that is readily available and is much cleaner for the environment compared to coal and oil, especially since there is a high demand for it here in our country and abroad.

When the federal government sets policy, it has to weigh issues such as the environment equally with job creation and the economy. However, since it has been proven that extracting natural gas can be done safely with our current technology, I can't see why elected officials like Representative Ed Markey still voice opposition. LNG exports have the potential to revitalize our stagnant economy, create jobs, and reduce the trade deficit. The proposal should be approved without delay.

Your constituent,

Ronald Phillips