

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 the two steel mills here in Lebanon that once employed 3,000 people closed, our town has become basically a welfare community. There are no other industries; instead, there is a lot of low-income housing. There is talk of the development of the Marcellus Shale natural gas about seventy-five miles from here. This will surely help those local communities, but it can also be beneficial to Lebanon.

The Department of Energy study that shows the advantages of exporting liquefied natural gas (LNG) is very encouraging. The jobs that will be created by exploring, developing and exporting LNG will certainly turn our economy around. It is disappointing that a leader on the Natural Resources Committee, Rep. Ed Markey, would criticize this study in his letter to you. I am hopeful that your decision will be based on what is best for our economy and for our nation.

My husband, Kenneth, and I have both retired from the Veterans Administration. I worked there for thirty-seven years before retiring in 1999. The cost of Medicare and our insurance leaves little discretionary money for our use. The opportunity to do something that will help so many citizens and help our economy, our balance of trade and our nation is currently in your hands. Please support the plan to allow for the exportation of LNG.

Thanks,

Sally Simmons
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