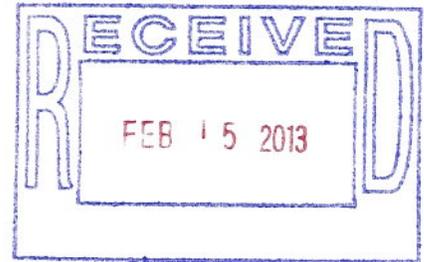


Sandra Kerkman .

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,

The Department of Energy recently published a study on the net economic benefits if liquefied natural gas exports were authorized. While many praised the study and its conclusions, others, including Congressman Markey of Massachusetts, openly opposed it. I am concerned that he may need it explained more clearly. If that is not the case, then I would like to know what his solution for our economy would be. I support exporting LNG from our surplus of natural gas.

I was raised in a small town in the country and prefer living among a smaller population. Currently, I live in Austin, Texas, and I realize if LNG production increases, the population will grow due to job growth. I may not be a fan of an increasing population, but I would like to see job growth in our area. My 26 year old son graduated from an automotive and diesel technology school in Houston and has been rigorously searching for work since October. He has gone on interviews and filled out many applications, but he has not had any luck. Expanding natural gas production would give him and many others more opportunities. We all know many jobs have moved overseas, which has stifled our economy. Even Dell Inc., one of Austin's largest businesses founded in Texas, has more employees abroad than in the United States. There are currently 14,000 people who work for Dell in central Texas, but 100,000 employees globally. If exporting our natural resources can even out the playing field, what are we waiting for?

LNG exports would not only help our country, but it would also help other countries. Other countries pay more for oil and gas than we do. If we can help our allies and reduce exports from hostile countries, then we are doing the world a favor. The Department of Energy's study seems concrete to me, so I hope you will authorize LNG exports.

Sincerely yours,


Sandra Kerkman