June 20, 2014

Dear Members of the Indiana Congressional Delegation:

On behalf of the Ports of Indiana, I hope we can count on your support for expedited licensing of LNG exports by domestic producers. We have had several recent inquiries related to the LNG industry and we believe this issue warrants special attention at this time.

As you know, the Ports of Indiana operates a statewide system of three ports that ship and receive international cargoes via the Great Lakes and the Ohio-Mississippi river systems. Our ports already handle high volumes of energy-related cargoes such as ethanol, coal, fuels and heavy equipment for refinery construction. These types of cargoes are a key reason Indiana’s ports generate more than $6 billion in economic activity per year and support 50,000 jobs.

The Port of Indiana-Burns Harbor recently handled many refinery components for the multi-billion dollar expansion by BP in Whiting, Ind. This port regularly handles ocean-going ships, including the type that would be involved in LNG exports. Our two Ohio River ports also regularly send barge shipments of ethanol and other products to the Gulf of Mexico for transshipment onto ocean vessels for export to world markets. These shipping channels could provide unique opportunities for businesses looking to process LNG for export from Indiana, and would provide a significant competitive advantage for our state in securing this type of investment and economic development in the future.

We have already had several discussions with companies expressing interest in using Indiana’s ports for shipping LNG to international markets and we believe that building robust LNG capabilities in the United States can help Indiana’s economy, as well as that of the greater region. We hope that you will consider the potential for Indiana as you engage on LNG policy.

Sincerely,

Rich Cooper
Chief Executive Officer
Ports of Indiana