

May 19, 2014

## President

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J. Kelly Robbins

The Honorable Mark Pryor

U.S. Senator

255 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg

Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

Opening up America's shale energy abundance to a world eager to source natural gas would take our growth prospects to a new level. We could draw more investment to our domestic oil and gas industry, stabilize domestic pricing by entering a competitive global market, and turbocharge the wealth and job creation that we've seen in such a short time in energy-rich Arkansas, and that's why I'm writing today in support of LNG exports.

When I talk about abundant and affordable sources of shale gas, I'm not exaggerating. A new study of the Fayetteville Shale predicts a reserve and production potential of 18 *trillion* cubic feet of natural gas by 2050. The forecast by The Bureau of Economic Geology at the University of Texas at Austin concludes that the formation will continue to be a major contributor to U.S. natural gas production. Advances in drilling technologies have allowed us the opportunity to safely take advantage of this natural resource.

Giving close attention to applications for American LNG exports has won broad, bipartisan support in Congress. In a letter to Secretary Moniz, 34 Senators (including Sen. Boozman) and 110 Representatives encouraged him to "continue to review and make decisions on the remaining applications in an expeditious manner. The world is hungry for U.S. natural gas, and the geopolitical implications of LNG exports are tremendous."

This is an opportunity to not only grow Arkansas' economy, but our country's economy through increased exports. Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker recently declared that nearly one-third of the country's economic growth since the middle of 2009 has been fueled by exports. President Obama, in turn, asserted that more American jobs currently are supported by exports than at any point in the last 20 years. Isn't it time that the Fayetteville Shale "energize" our trade growth through a more robust LNG export infrastructure?

The House Energy & Commerce Committee has advanced legislation that would require the Department of Energy to issue a decision on applications for LNG export permits in an expedited fashion. A similar bill awaits action in the Senate. Your support for these measures would do much to ensure their passage.

Sincerely,

J. Kelly Robbins

Executive Vice President