



July 16, 2014

U.S. Department of Energy (FE-34)
Attn: Proposed Procedures, Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply
Office of Fossil Energy
P.O. Box 44375
Washington, DC 20026-4375

To the U.S. Department of Energy:


I have publicly expressed my support for U.S. LNG exports as the President of Inland Rivers Ports and Terminals, Inc. (IRPT). I write today to continue in my active encouragement for the Department of Energy to streamline the application process to help create additional market opportunities for U.S. energy resources when domestic needs for those resources have been adequately met.

So long as our needs for LNG here at home are being met, LNG exports can create significant job and growth within our industry. By expanding the lists of destinations to which the U.S. can export, we will pave the way for more investment in and production of energy resources that create this growth. This will have many positive impacts all across global supply chains, but only if we act fast enough to take advantage of this strategic opportunity. Accordingly, we would recommend the Administration take additional steps to streamline the application process. Doing so will create many domestic jobs and increased economic growth without harming our domestic energy needs.

IRPT is a trade association for the nation's inland waterway, ports, and terminal professionals. Our mission is to provide a platform for inland river port and terminal professionals to improve their businesses and to inform policy makers on the economic impacts and infrastructure needs of the inland waterway system. Our members provide vital services in the transportation of critical commodities that support the U.S. energy sector, and IRPT and its members look forward to increased opportunities for the inland waterways to serve U.S. energy producers exporting LNG to markets worldwide.

Thank you for consideration of our interests in this important issue.

Sincerely,


Hugh McConnell
IRPT President