

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 12, 2020

The Honorable Dan Brouillette  
Secretary of Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Brouillette:

We write to express our support for the Department of Energy's (DOE) recently released Notice of Proposed Policy Statement (Proposal) extending natural gas export authorizations to non-free trade agreement countries through the year 2050.

The Proposal provides a more certain pathway for U.S. natural gas to be sold abroad, thus extending its affordability, reliability and environmental benefits to our trading partners while creating thousands of good paying jobs in the United States and generating millions in tax revenue for federal, state, and local governments.

DOE's proposal sends a clear statement of confidence in U.S. liquefied natural gas (LNG) and provides greater regulatory certainty to the industry, thus facilitating capital investment and the ability for U.S. LNG to reduce global carbon emissions further into the future. For U.S. LNG exporters, the Proposal provides reassurance that these capital-intensive infrastructure projects have a reasonable expectation of recouping their investment for the full lifetime of the LNG terminal.

Furthermore, this extension will place U.S. LNG on a level playing field with competitors abroad who have the ability to offer contracts that exceed DOE's original 20-year contract term limit. The extension of these natural gas export authorizations sends a clear message to customers abroad that the U.S. is a committed natural gas trading partner.

The United States is blessed with abundant natural gas resources, and new discoveries are located almost daily. In order for the U.S. natural gas industry to continue to be an engine for growth, reliable exports are essential. This Proposal sends a strong signal to our allies and trading partners that the U.S. is committed to its natural gas industry and its role as a global clean energy leader.

We commend DOE on its commitment to U.S. global energy leadership and support DOE adopting its Proposal to extend natural gas export authorizations to non-free trade agreement countries through the year 2050.

Sincerely,

*John Barrasso* *Bill Cassidy, M.D.*  
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John Barrasso, M.D.  
United States Senator

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Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
United States Senator

*John Hoeven*  
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John Hoeven  
United States Senator

*Kevin Cramer*  
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