

My name is Merrily Tohill. I am an 82-year-old patriotic American. My father was away for the first 4 years of my life. He was in the United States Army, fighting in France and Germany to help end World War II. I have always been grateful to live in this free country. I grew up in Omaha, Nebraska, and married a Geologist who graduated from Nebraska University. We moved to Colorado for his job with a large Oil company when the oil and gas industry was thriving. We were so happy to be in Colorado, enjoying skiing, camping, and fishing. We grew into a prosperous middle-class family with three sons. In the mid 80's the Oil industry in America collapsed. My husband's well-paying job was gone! Even with his Master's degree and 20 years of experience, he could not find other employment for several years. After 13 years as a full-time mother, I had to return to work to support my family. This happened to thousands of families and led to a big downturn in the whole economy. This is how I came to realize how important the Oil and Gas Industry is to our well being.

I understand that The Department of Energy is responsible for overseeing all of the intricacies of the many sources of our energy supply. I know you have to balance demands for energy with demands for environmental safety, efficient production, storage and transportation. I appreciate how complicated your task is.

There are reports that the Biden Administration and the DOE are pausing liquified natural gas exports, a political move to tie up LNG exports before the next administration comes into power. Natural gas is in high demand around the world and exporting it would benefit the recovery of our economy and strengthen U.S. geopolitical influence and reduce the U.S. trade deficit. American-made LNG is among the cleanest in the world, it is abundant and exporting it provides continued development of that industry which supports over 200,000 jobs.

I want America to stay strong in the world energy market. This country is richly blessed with natural resources of energy. Our foreign competitors would take advantage of this pause to expand their market share. So please do not continue to pause liquified natural gas exports.