DENNIS BONNEN





HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committees: Chair, Land and Resource Management · Elections

January 28, 2011

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> The Honorable Dr. Steven Chu Secretary of Energy 1000 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20585

The Honorable Jon Wellinghoff Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, NE Washington, DC 20426

Dear Secretary Chu and Chairman Wellinghoff:

I am writing today to express my enthusiastic support for the expansion of the Freeport LNG facility on Quintana Island, Texas. As you likely are aware, Freeport LNG is proposing an expansion of their liquefied natural gas (LNG) import and regasification facilities to allow for the liquefaction of U.S. natural gas and the export of LNG. The project could result in direct investment of more than \$2 billion and more than 1,000 construction jobs over 2-3 years. Indirect effects could total \$3.6 billion of economic benefit to the U.S. economy and 20,000 jobs across the U.S. to support production of new natural gas supplies, principally from the massive shale gas deposits being developed across the country. The project would also significantly advance President Obama's National Export Initiative and contribute to the displacement of dirty-burning coal and fuel oil around the world.

I appreciate the roles that both the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) played in enabling the company's initial \$1 billion investment in LNG import and regasification facilities, which would still be operational if export facilities were added. I am hopeful that familiarity with the project across the relevant federal agencies and the company's proven track record will allow for an expedited permitting process. The Freeport expansion enjoys broad support at the state and local levels, and we encourage FERC and DOE to work with Freeport LNG to quickly authorize the needed permits to allow this important project to move forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Denie Bomon

Dennis Bonnen District 25

cc:

FERC Commissioner Philip Moeller

FERC Commissioner Marc Spitzer

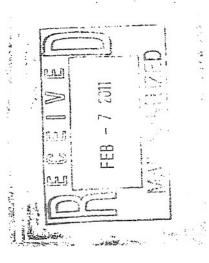
FERC Commissioner John Norris

FERC Commissioner Cheryl LaFleur

DISTRICT 25 BRAZORIA (PART)



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