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By Docket Room at: 12/07/12

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LNGStudy](#)
Subject: 2012 LNG Export Study
Date: Friday, December 07, 2012 3:55:23 PM

Dear Secretary:

I write to express my disapproval of the energy industry's hurried attempt to export natural gas from this country, precipitated by the exploitation of shale gas at great environmental cost to many residents and the country. I live in the middle of the Marcellus shale natural gas play in northern Pennsylvania. When the industry began its land-leasing grab ~ 5 years ago, it was so fast no one, residents or government leaders alike, had time to analyze and understand what the long-term implications were. Offers of substantial sums of lease money were enough to persuade most landowners to jump without knowing future costs to them. Our government leaders in Pennsylvania let us residents and landowners down by doing nothing to warn us about potential financial and environmental risks. No advice was given on what to do about landmen or leases, precautions to be aware of, or the like. We were told there was enough gas in the Marcellus shale formation to last at least a century and that prices (and thus home heating costs) would stay very low as a result of the amount of recoverable gas in the formation. Many of us were skeptical, but development went forward with few questions or regulations from the state, despite a concerted effort to slow it down by many informed citizens urging environmental studies and caution. We pointed to putting water resources at risk, infrastructural degradation, as well as pollution from noise, light, and volatile emissions. With little else to do about it, many of us reasoned that once these gas wells are finally drilled, much of the developmental impact would attenuate, and an abundant source of energy cleaner than coal would be available to residents of Pennsylvania and other northern states, primarily in the form of heating energy for a century or more at low cost to residents. I was willing to accept this, based on what we were told early on. Now the story has changed, and the profiteers want to export our natural resources earned at the expense of residents tolerating the drilling activity, costs to monitor our water wells, and loss of peace over its ongoing development. In my neighborhood I have no peace anymore. There is increased noise from the drilling/hydrofracturing going on, one pad a third of a mile from my residence, others further in all directions. There is increased noise from an expanding railroad (Wellsboro and Corning, WCOR) bringing in hydrofracturing sand from the Great Lakes area, as well as tanker-loads of water from rivers afar. Then there is the noise from the transloading facility only a mile away, where the materials are offloaded and picked up by a steady stream of trucks. Then the noise of all the trucks carrying those supplies along the highway in front of my home, including constant use of engine breaks enroute. Then the noise from the Tennessee Gas pipeline that crosses northern Pennsylvania, and only a third of a mile from my home. The compressor was enlarged only a year ago and now a new permit is requested to greatly enlarge this compressor, which emits a high-pitched whistle 24 hours now. These all have cumulative effects that none of the industrial entities addresses in their permit applications and awards. I cannot hear many bird songs anymore and hunters' experiences are much less enjoyed with all this noise drowning out natural sounds. These are some of the environmental costs (not to mention all the water well risks and costs to monitor) that we residents must endure for this supposed "clean" energy development and use. I am willing to endure all this under the premise we were originally promised (stated above), but not for export and profiteering from it. I urge you not to conveniently forget all the costs residents in

the drilling areas must endure for development of this type of natural gas and to disallow or greatly curtail its export.

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Robert M. Ross
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Sent from my laptop, where messages are typed much faster and contain more information than any iPad.