

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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**Docket:** DOE-HQ-2013-0001

2012 LNG Export Study: Freeport LNG Expansion, LP and FLNG Liquefaction, LLC; Lake Charles Exports, LLC; et al.

**Comment On:** DOE-HQ-2013-0001-0001

2012 LNG Export Study: Freeport LNG Expansion, LP and FLNG Liquefaction, LLC; Lake Charles Exports, LLC; et al.

**Document:** DOE-HQ-2013-0001-DRAFT-0002

Comment on FR Doc # 2012-29894

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## Submitter Information

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**Government Agency:** Texas House of Representatives / Texas Senate

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## General Comment

See attached file(s)

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## Attachments

ritter-williams-letter



January 24, 2013

The Honorable Steven Chu  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Chu:

We generally support the findings of the recently released NERA report commissioned by the Department of Energy (DOE) to examine the macroeconomic impacts of liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports from the United States, and believe it provides strong grounds for approval of pending applications for overseas LNG sales. Natural gas provides a critical and significant source of job and revenue growth, and Texas' natural gas development and production is playing a key role in driving the nation's economic recovery. Through incentive and innovation, Texas has successfully capitalized on its abundant supply of natural gas and has diversified its energy portfolio. Led by the ingenuity, vision and boldness of Texas entrepreneurs and state support of promising technology, Texas is leading the way toward energy independence for our nation.

However, this rapid growth in supply, without a concomitant increase in domestic demand, has led to an artificially constrained market. Restricting the ability to export excess domestic production deprives domestic producers of the ability to fully maximize production potential. The NERA report confirms that supplies are sufficient to meet domestic demand and that, under every modeled scenario, the United States is projected to gain significant net economic benefits from allowing LNG exports. In other words, increased trade will result in additional demand, which will stimulate further investment, more production, and more jobs in Texas and across the country.

Additionally, the NERA report concludes that U.S. consumers would benefit from LNG exports in all of the export volume scenarios that were analyzed.

In the wake of the NERA report and the realities of today's natural gas market, we believe now is the time to expand domestic exportation of LNG. We respectfully urge the Administration to advance without delay through the comment period and toward approval of export permits to non-Free Trade Agreement (FTA) countries.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Tommy Williams in black ink.

State Senator Tommy Williams, District 4

Handwritten signature of Allan B. Ritter in black ink.

State Representative Allan B. Ritter, District 21