

[REDACTED]

From: JDO [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2013 2:36 PM
To: LNGStudy
Subject: 2012 LNG Export Study

To Whom It May Concern:

First, I wish to thank the Department of Energy staff for allowing public comments on its Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Export Study conducted by NERA Economic Consulting. As a combat veteran of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom who will soon be departing for another combat tour in Africa, I am keenly aware of America's continuing need to find energy solutions and the consequences of energy dependence. This important work underscores ways that America can move to energy independence, something that will greatly benefit all who currently serve and those who will serve our nation, as well as the citizens and taxpayers for whom we fight and protect.

The NERA Study states clearly, that through all scenarios researched, "the U.S. was projected to gain net economic benefits from allowing LNG exports. Moreover, for every one of the market scenarios examined, net economic benefits increased as the level of LNG exports increased."

Let there be no doubt that exporting some of our abundant natural gas resources will have a synergistic, positive effect on our people and economy by generating great infrastructure investment and creating jobs. In a microcosm, we have seen the results of that here in my beloved home state of Pennsylvania. At a time of great economic hardship, natural gas has saved families from foreclosure, fostered family-sustaining careers with benefits and had a positive impact on the community by lightening people's burdens with extra income and opportunity.

At a time when record rates of unemployment ravage our returning veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan (6.6 percent higher than those who never served), LNG exports will support thousands of additional jobs for our veterans in engineering, manufacturing, construction, and operation of the export infrastructure, as well as others indirectly along the equipment supply chain.

The report concludes that "the benefits that come from export expansion more than outweigh the losses from reduced capital and wage income to U.S. consumers, and hence LNG exports have net economic benefits in spite of higher natural gas prices. This is exactly the outcome that economic theory describes when barriers to trade are removed."

As someone who has dedicated my life to serving community, commonwealth and country fighting for free people and free markets, those are exactly the outcomes our veterans and fellow citizens need and deserve. Therefore I am humbly asking for you support the applications for LNG exports without delay.

Very respectfully,

Jay Ostrich

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