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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 20, 2013 12:33 PM
To: LNGStudy
Subject: 2012 LNG Export Study

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) NERA LNG study. My name is Paul Chevalier, Sergeant Major, United States Marine Corps (Ret.), from New Hampshire. I am submitting this comment in support of the NERA LNG Export Study because I believe the allowing exports of natural gas will enhance our nation's economic and national security.

Economy

The NERA Study states: "Across all these scenarios, 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."

Exporting some of America's abundant natural gas to global markets is a major opportunity for the U.S., and generates investment and jobs.

Furthermore, Exports would also attract capital from outside the U.S. to domestic energy infrastructure projects, particularly construction of the liquefaction facilities needed to convert gas into LNG. "If this capital originates from sources outside the U.S., it will represent another form of wealth transfer into the U.S.," the report concluded.

Exports would also improve the nation's balance of trade. Overseas sales of LNG would result in a "wealth transfer" into the U.S. *Over the last 10 years, the U.S. has run an annual average trade deficit of over one-half trillion dollars (2011 US trade deficit -\$560 billion).*

NERA concludes, "the average annual increase in revenues from LNG exports ranges from about \$2.6 billion to almost \$32.9 billion". The additional gas production associated with exports would also generate billions of dollars annually in much needed federal and state government revenue.

U.S. Trade Relations and National Security

Exporting natural gas is also good for U.S. Trade relations, and the United States must continue to strengthen relations with countries that support our values. NERA assumes that allies, such as Japan would continue to rely upon LNG to meet their natural gas demand. Selling natural gas helps close allies like Japan, a country coping with serious energy challenges, while generating economic benefits here at home.

In closing, I support the NERA Export Study and request that the Department of Energy support the export of natural gas by approving the Liquefied Natural Gas applications currently under consideration.

(s) Paul J. Chevalier