

**From:** [hasemasa@keidanren.or.jp](mailto:hasemasa@keidanren.or.jp)  
**To:** [LNGStudy](#)  
**Subject:** Keidanren"s Comments on the 2012 LNG Export Study  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 22, 2013 11:35:55 PM  
**Attachments:** [130123\\_keidanren\\_s\\_comments\\_on\\_the\\_2012\\_lng\\_expert\\_study\\_pdf.pdf](#)

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Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of Keidanren, Japan Business Federation,  
this is to send its comments on the 2012 LNG Export Study.

Please find attached.

Best regards,

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Masami Hasegawa (Mr.)  
Senior Manager, Environmental Policy Bureau  
Keidanren, Japan Business Federation  
1-3-2, Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan  
Zip code 100-8188  
<http://www.keidanren.or.jp>  
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## Keidanren's Comments on the 2012 LNG Expert Study

January 23, 2013

Keidanren (Japan Business Federation)

1. Keidanren is a comprehensive economic organization comprising a membership of about 1300 major Japanese companies. Most of our member companies invest in and trade with the United States and seek further development of Japan-US relations. Keidanren also promotes the enhancement of a framework for free trade and investment; and have strongly demanded that the Japanese government participate in TPP.

This is Keidanren's response to the invitation of public comments on the 2012 LNG Expert Study.

2. We appreciate the US Department of Energy's release of the third party report, which it had commissioned NERA Economic Consulting to assess how exports of US LNG, including shale gas, would impact the American economy. In order to arrive at a conclusion on trade issues, which involve various interests, scientific and objective evaluation is extremely important. The Department of Energy should draw on the Study's conclusion that the US is projected to gain macroeconomic benefits from LNG exports and that the benefits would increase as the level of LNG exports increased; and therefore, it should deliberate on the promotion of LNG exports.

3. By allowing LNG exports, the US will not only gain direct and positive macroeconomic impacts but will also increase national interests in the following ways:

- (1) Enhanced global energy security

Energy resources are strategic goods for other countries as well as for the US. Securing a stable energy supply is invariably a major concern of all countries. When a country's energy security is threatened, conflict is triggered and international affairs become unstable.

Against the backdrop that continued growth is forecasted in emerging economies and that stability is not necessarily assured in the Middle East, the enhancement of global energy security continues to be an extremely critical issue.

By increasing LNG exports to the world market, the US can make large contributions to strengthening global energy security and stabilizing the global situation.

- (2) Further enhancement of relations with Japan, the US's Asian ally

Japan is a strategic partner of the US in Asia. Through US LNG transactions, Japan-US partnership will be strengthened, thereby deepening a mutual win-win relationship. This will also contribute to creating regional stabilization and bring benefits to the US.

4. Keidanren believes that the US should adopt policies in support of exporting LNG.

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