

From: [Howard Michael](#)
To: [LNGStudy](#)
Subject: 2012 LNG Export Study
Date: Monday, February 25, 2013 10:58:33 AM
Attachments: [20130225 LNG Export letter to Sec. Chu.pdf](#)

Support letter for LNG Export Study from Sam Kooiker, Mayor of Rapid City SD.

Thank you,
Michael Howard
Executive Assistant/Program Coordinator Mayor's Office
605-394-4110
michael.howard@rcgov.org



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

Office of the Mayor

300 Sixth Street

605-394-4110

Fax 605-394-6793

E-mail: mayor@rcgov.org

February 22, 2013

The Honorable Steven Chu
Secretary, US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Re: 2012 Liquid Natural Gas Export Study

Dear Secretary Chu:

I write today to offer comments in reply to those submitted by a number of Governors regarding the 2012 Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) Export Study.

In their comments, Governors from Arkansas, New Mexico, Virginia, and West Virginia all accurately pointed out the net economic benefits for the United States in allowing LNG exports. As they stated, allowing exporting of LNG will result the creation of thousands of new jobs, billions in investment and growth in GDP.

I want to comment simply as a Mayor from a growing city in a small northern plains state. As Mayor of Rapid City, South Dakota, we're constantly looking for ways to grow our community and our economy. I know one way of doing that is by manufacturing goods right here in Rapid City and then 'exporting' them to other parts of the country or even to other countries. Doing this helps employ our citizens, enhance our economy, and brings tax dollars into local governments and schools. It will work much the same way when we export LNG to other countries. Let's start exporting some of our natural resources and importing wealth from other nations. The Governors are right - net economic benefits will increase as the level of LNG exports increase.

More pointedly, I want to share with you what energy development is doing for my community. Our neighbors in North Dakota are obviously in the midst of an economic boon. The oil and gas activity in North Dakota has a direct impact on my city and state. Last October, I participated in a groundbreaking for WL Plastics as they begin to manufacture piping right here in Rapid City to be used in the Bakken oil fields. Mr. Chu, you can see that oil and gas activity has an impact not just in the oil fields but all across America, and I can tell you that it is certainly impacting my community. While WL Plastics is just one example, I can tell you that we are seeing a steady increase in traffic and commerce in Rapid City that we can attribute to the oil and gas work happening 'next door'. We welcome this activity and hope for more business relocation and more activity in the coming years.

Thank you for allowing me to offer comments to support those of Governor's Beebe, Martinez, McDonnell, and Tomblin. They are right about the net economic benefits for the United States. I see it every day in my community, and would respectfully ask for your support of the 2012 LNG Export Study and the pending LNG export applications.

Thank you,

Sam Kooiker, Mayor
Rapid City, South Dakota



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