

Secretary Steven Chu
2012 LNG Export Study
U.S. Department of Energy (FE-34)
Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities
Office of Fossil Energy
P.O. Box 44375
Washington, DC 20026-4375



Dear Secretary Chu,

Something must be done to bring back money and manufacturing jobs to our area. It is important that we ease up a bit on energy regulation so that new jobs can be created. Right now we have a golden opportunity to begin exporting natural gas to other countries. The Department of Energy did a study on the positive impact that exporting liquefied natural gas (LNG) would have, but one person in particular, Massachusetts Congressman Ed Markey, wrote a letter opposing this study. I'm not sure how anyone can oppose more jobs and revenue for our country, which is what exporting LNG will provide.

The government needs to be sure that energy regulations do not hinder job expansion. I've noticed that over-regulation on energy policy has almost completely obliterated our local coal industry. As regulations increase other local industries are suffering as well. I personally lost my job at Honeywell making textiles along with around 3,000 other workers. Many of the Honeywell jobs were lost to other countries, and the plant only employs around 200 people now.

After Honeywell laid me off, I started my own commercial maintenance business. I buy American made vehicles for my job in order to keep money at home, but environmental regulations like those imposed on diesel fuel make business harder to conduct. Clearly, the US needs to allow the energy industry to do what is best for the economy. For these reasons, I believe that we should allow the export of liquefied natural gas to countries around the globe.

Best,

Kevin Whelan

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Whelan".