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**To:** [LNGStudy](#)  
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**Subject:** 2012 LNG Export Study  
**Date:** Friday, January 04, 2013 3:14:50 PM  
**Attachments:** [WV Chamber Letter of Support for NERA.pdf](#)

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Hello,

I have attached the WV Chamber's comments regarding the 2012 LNG Study. Thank you.



**Brian Dayton**

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By Docket Room at 3:38 pm, Jan 04, 2013



WEST VIRGINIA CHAMBER

To: 2012 LNG Study  
From: West Virginia Chamber of Commerce  
Date: 1/4/13

The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce recognizes the valuable findings of the NERA Economic Consulting study on the impacts of liquefied natural gas (LNG) exporting. We commend the Department of Energy for commissioning this study and believe it could provide grounds for approval of the pending applications for overseas LNG sales.

The West Virginia Chamber strongly supports domestic energy production, and working people and businesses throughout West Virginia have benefitted from the recent developments in shale gas. New natural gas supplies from the Marcellus formation have provided a valuable source of good-paying jobs and business income, as well as abundant and affordable energy. The NERA report clearly suggests that allowing overseas sales of LNG would further strengthen the natural gas industry and our nation's economy. These valuable benefits cannot be overlooked, especially during a time of continuing economic weakness.

These benefits will extend far beyond West Virginia. For example, the NERA report noted that exports "will improve the U.S. balance of trade," and could also promote a "wealth transfer" into this country, as foreign capital may help support construction of infrastructure such as liquefaction plants needed for exports.

Allowing these sales will dampen the "boom or bust" phenomenon that has marked natural gas exploration and production. Additional sales could provide a new outlet for domestic production and prevent dramatic downturns in drilling when domestic supply outstrips demand. This will help keep natural gas available and affordable for homes, businesses and power plants, in West Virginia and throughout our nation.

The NERA report supports the position that LNG exporting will be good for the families and businesses of our region. In light of these findings, we urge the Department of Energy to move forward with pending export applications.

Sincerely,

Stephen G. Roberts,  
President