

What Others Are Saying: Current and Former Government Officials

President Barack Obama, Interview with TIME Magazine (Dec. 12, 2012)

"The other big piece of this is that the transformation and energy could have a huge geopolitical consequence. The United States is going to be a net exporter of energy because of new technologies and what we're doing with natural gas and oil."

President Barack Obama, State of the Union Address (Jan. 2010)

"[W]e need to export more of our goods. Because the more products we make and sell to other countries, the more jobs we support right here in America. So tonight, we set a new goal: We will double our exports over the next five years, an increase that will support two million jobs in America... We have to seek new markets aggressively, just as our competitors are. If America sits on the sidelines while other nations sign trade deals, we will lose the chance to create jobs on our shores."

110 bipartisan members of Congress, letter to Secretary Chu (Jan. 23, 2013)

"The growth of the natural gas industry drives jobs creation, increases tax revenue, royalties and supports domestic manufacturing," the bipartisan letter reads. "However, the continued growth of this industry is reliant on steady demand; demand which we believe can responsibly include the export of LNG. We are pleased that the NERA study commissioned by DOE supports this, indicating the export of LNG will provide economic benefits to our nation."

J. Bennett Johnston, former Democratic senator from Louisiana and chairman of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources (March 4, 2013)

"...Does anyone really think that Congress or the Department of Energy, years in advance, can predict supply and demand or determine which of the 16 applicants can procure the billions of dollars and decades-long contracts necessary to build an LNG export facility?"

"The free market might not always lead to everyone's definition of the sweet spot, but experience has shown that it is a better allocator and regulator than bureaucrats and politicians. We should heed the admonition of Adam Smith that demand begets supply: Allow the free market to allocate the nation's newfound energy bounty."

Governors Mary Fallin (OK), John Hickenlooper (CO) and Rick Perry (TX), letter to Secretary Chu, (January 24, 2013)

"First, we were pleased with the long-awaited December release of the report conducted for the Department of Energy (DOE) entitled "Macroeconomic Impacts of LNG Exports from the United States." As our states recognize, we were pleased to see the report concluded that each LNG export scenario the study reviewed resulted in 'net economic benefits' for the United States. The report also found that while additional exports could impact domestic natural gas prices, any increases would be offset by U.S. economic benefits."

Governor Tom Corbett, Pennsylvania (Feb. 6, 2012)

"To successfully grow any business, we must be open to exploring all potential markets. This same principle holds true with respect to our energy industry. We have an opportunity to continue the growth in American jobs, reduce our trade deficit, and encourage private capital investment at one of the most critical times in our nation's economy."

Senators Mary Landrieu (LA), and Heidi Heitkamp (ND), letter to Secretary Chu, (January 23, 2013)

"The growth of the natural gas industry drives job creation, increases tax revenues, royalties and supports domestic manufacturing. However, the continued growth of this industry is reliant on steady demand; demand which we believe can responsibly include the export of LNG. We are pleased that the NERA study commissioned by DOE supports this, indicating that the export of LNG will provide economic benefit to our nation."

Senator Lisa Murkowski, Ranking member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Nov. 28, 2012)

"[LNG exports are] an opportunity to really help tilt the balance of trade in our favor for the first time in decades."

"The economic gain that could be offered for the American worker (and) the geopolitical benefits that could come...are positives."

Senator David Vitter, Louisiana (January 23, 2013)

"...The reality is that trade and exports are imperative to the success of the U.S. economy, and our deficits in trade and the national budget are fundamental challenges that cannot be solved by closing the door on LNG or other domestic exports."

Governor Robert McDonnell, Virginia (January 24, 2013)

"The construction and operation of LNG export terminals and increased exploration production activity will support thousands, if not many times that, of jobs and billions in investment at a time when such a free market stimulus is so desperately needed. Assuredly, this means growth in domestic GDP and an opportunity to restore our international balance of trade. We cannot afford for this to become another missed opportunity."

Governor Susana Martinez, New Mexico (January 23, 2013)

"The global opportunity U.S. natural gas supplies could also have in delivering geopolitical stability and national security cannot be overlooked."

Governor Earl Ray Tomblin, West Virginia (Jan. 16, 2013)

"First, we are pleased with the long-awaited December release of the report conducted for the Department of Energy (DOE) entitled "Macroeconomic Impacts of LNG Exports from the United States." We were pleased to see the report concluded that each LNG export scenario the study reviewed resulted in "net economic benefits" for the United States.

Bill Richardson and Spencer Abraham, former Secretaries, U.S. Department of Energy (Dec. 24, 2012):

"We believe, however, that LNG exports can buttress US geopolitical leadership and trade, while at the same time continuing to support low domestic natural gas prices and a renaissance in domestic manufacturing. In addition LNG exports offer the potential for lower global carbon emissions"

17 bipartisan PA state legislators, letter to President Obama, cosigned by (Jan. 2, 2013)

"We urge you to take the steps necessary to expedite the approval process for the export of LNG. Building the energy infrastructure necessary to allow market-based exports of liquefied natural gas will not only add stability to the energy production cycle in our region, it will create more American jobs, help reverse economic down turns, and continue reviving once declining industries."

14 bipartisan OH state legislators, letter to Secretary Chu (Jan. 24, 2013)

"We support the findings of this recent NERA study. It not only showed the unique potential of the LNG export market, but also stated that 'U.S. economic welfare consistently increases as the volume of natural gas exports increases.' This is reinforced by the U.S. International Trade Administration's funding that each \$1 billion of exports will result in more than 6,000 new jobs."

