

What Others are Saying about U.S. LNG Exports: Economic Studies and Think Tanks

Bipartisan Policy Center, "The '2012 LNG Export Study' Findings Are Consistent with Existing Analyses of the Economic Impacts of LNG Exports" (January 24, 2013)

"The initial results of the BPC's analysis are consistent with the findings in the literature as well as with the NERA report titled 'Macroeconomic Impacts of LNG Exports from the United States.' The key findings of the initial BPC analysis are:

1. Domestic natural gas price levels are the primary driver of U.S. LNG exports.
2. U.S. LNG exports are unlikely to result in large price impacts in the domestic market.

Brookings Institution, "Liquid Markets: Assessing the Case for U.S. Exports of Liquefied Natural Gas" (May 2, 2012)

"The study recommends that U.S. policy makers should refrain from introducing legislation or regulations that would either promote or limit additional exports of LNG from the United States. The nature of the LNG sector, both the costs associated with producing, processing, and shipping the gas, and the global market in which it will compete, will place upper bounds on the amount of LNG that will be economic to export.

"LNG exports are likely to be a net benefit to the U.S. economy." (p. 2)

Baker Institute at Rice University, "Shale Gas and U.S. National Security" (July 2011)

"The United States should focus squarely on setting the policies needed to ensure that shale gas can play a significant role in the U.S. and global energy mix, thereby contributing to greater diversification of global energy supplies and to the long-term national interests of the United States." (p. 56)

Congressional Research Service, "Natural Gas in the U.S. Economy: Opportunities for Growth" (Nov. 6, 2012)

"Exports of energy-related resources have not been a big part of U.S. trade so increasing them would likely improve the overall U.S. trade balance. Nevertheless, the rise in U.S. natural gas production has already benefitted the U.S. trade position by dramatically decreasing imports, the other component of the trade balance. Increasing U.S. LNG exports would also expand the role of the United States in international natural gas markets. Asian countries, in particular, and some European countries have called for more U.S. LNG exports." (p. 22-23)

American Council for Capital Formation (Jan. 10, 2013)

"It is unfortunate that industries with a clear agenda are attempting to restrict LNG exports due to possible price impacts. It is analogous to the cereal industry attempting to curtail grain exports by U.S. farmers in order to hold down grain prices.

"We have long since understood the tremendous benefits of free trade, regardless of the commodity or produce being traded. Expanded trade will yield very large benefits to the U.S. economy, ranging from increased jobs and economic growth to increased governmental revenues. History shows, in contrast, the very harmful consequences of protectionist policies, which attempt to shield the interests of a narrow industrial sector at the expense of the larger economy.

"From corn to cars to wheat, exports have proven to be a net positive boost for the U.S. economy and LNG exports shouldn't be treated differently."

National Regulatory Research Institute, "LNG Exports: What State Utility Commission Need to Know" (Nov. 8, 2012)

"US policy should support LNG exports as part of a 'free trade' stance that with a few exceptions would serve the country's interest." (p. V)

"...the US would realize a net economic gain and improved international relations from LNG exports," (p. 13)

Marshall Institute (Dec. 29, 2012)

"The US exports about \$1.5 trillion dollars in goods each year. These exports include machinery, electronics, vehicles, aircraft, medical equipment, precious metals, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and agricultural products. In recent years, exports have represented 10% of our gross domestic product. According to the Department of Commerce, they support over 10 million jobs. So, why would politicians and some businesses advocate export restrictions?"