

January 22, 2016

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, Chairman
Energy and Natural Resources Committee
United States Senate
304 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Ranking Member
Energy and Natural Resources Committee
United States Senate
304 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Murkowski and Cantwell,

On behalf of the Center for Liquefied Natural Gas, the Natural Gas Supply Association and the Independent Petroleum Association of America, we write to applaud the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee for the hard work you have done moving S. 2012 – The Energy Policy Modernization Act (EPMA) – through Committee in July of 2015 and bringing it to Senate floor. Specifically, we are encouraged to see the inclusion of Section 1306 (Vehicle Research and Development), Section 1308 (Commercial and Transit Vehicles), Section 2201 (Action on applications to export liquefied natural gas), Section 2202 (Public disclosure of liquefied natural gas export destinations) and Section 3102 (Study on the economic impacts of liquefied natural gas exports) in the bipartisan legislative proposal. We strongly believe the passage of this legislation will help to accelerate the creation of a thriving domestic liquefied natural gas (LNG) industry.

By providing for a 45-day time limit for the issuance of a public interest determination, the bill will ensure an expedited approval process for LNG export facilities. The Department of Energy's (DOE) latest report on the macroeconomic impacts of U.S. LNG exports strengthens the case for accelerating the permitting process for export projects and increasing the level of U.S. LNG exports. The DOE study found that, under expanded export scenarios, the U.S. economy would gain \$7 to \$20 billion, and 9,600 to 35,200 jobs every year from 2026 to 2040.

U.S. marketed natural gas production surpassed all-time record levels in 2011 and has continued to grow by leaps and bounds in ensuing years. In fact, the United States now leads the world in natural gas production. Increased production has paved the way for U.S. economic growth and energy security, while also enabling the United States to achieve its lowest carbon emissions in 20 years in 2012. Increased LNG exports would benefit the U.S. economy by encouraging higher levels of natural gas production, stimulating investment into the sector, and boosting manufacturers along the natural gas supply chain.

Thanks to the technological breakthroughs that have unleashed an energy renaissance in the United States, EPMA offers an opportunity to capitalize further on this opportunity by exporting LNG. With this newfound abundance of natural gas, we can supply affordable, clean, energy to domestic markets and simultaneously recognize the economic benefits of increased participation in the global LNG market. Exporting LNG will extend the benefits of U.S. natural gas supply to our trade partners, fueling the world economy while contributing to the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions.

On behalf of CLNG, NGSAA and IPAA's member companies, we thank you for the many hours of hard work that have gone into preparing this important legislation and urge the Senate to adopt S. 2012.

Please contact us if we can of assistance.

Sincerely,

Charlie Riedl
Executive Director
Center for Liquefied Natural Gas



Dena E. Wiggins
President & CEO
Natural Gas Supply Association



Lee O. Fuller
Executive Vice President
Independent Petroleum Association of America

