



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JOSH ZEPNICK
WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

February 4, 2014

Senator Tammy Baldwin
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Baldwin,

As a State Representative, job support is one of my biggest priorities. Therefore, I am concerned that the Department of Energy (DOE) has approved five new terminals for the export of liquid natural gas (LNG) with up to 30 more terminals under consideration. Approving more terminals without a full analysis of the current export facilities would be a mistake. For the sake of American jobs and industry, I strongly urge you to oppose any future approvals until the DOE has conducted a full analysis on the economic impact of the current exports.

The post-recession American economy is heavily dependent on affordable natural gas. That gas gives our businesses a comparative advantage over corporations overseas, creating hundreds of thousands of jobs in manufacturing and other sectors. Due to affordable gas, up to five million more jobs will be created over the next seven years. A CNN editorial called the drop in prices "one of the most important developments for the U.S. economy in the last 60 years."

However, gas prices are rising – 35% in 2013 – and further increases could seriously harm recovery. With the recent approval of a fifth LNG export terminal by the DOE, it has become critically important that we understand the implications of any further exports. The Center for American Progress wrote in a recent report that many questions remain unanswered about the effects of LNG exports: "If [DOE] does not have adequate information to answer them, it would be sensible to commission authoritative studies before approving additional applications."

As ranking Democrat on the Assembly Energy and Utility Committee, I strongly urge you to support further study on this issue before any additional expansion. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Josh Zepnick
State Representative
9th Assembly District
Wisconsin State Assembly



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WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

February 4, 2014

Secretary Ernest Moniz
1000 Independence Ave, SW
Room 7A-257
Washington, DC 20585

Honorable Secretary Moniz,

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John Podesta
Counselor to the President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Podesta,

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