



April 9, 2024

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

We write to urge you to reconsider your [recent decision](#) to stall permitting approvals for liquefied natural gas (LNG) export projects. Louisianans like us will be greatly impacted by this decision, which has severe consequences for the United States and our allies globally.

Our great state of Louisiana, with its rich history and culture, is a cornerstone for American energy. Natural gas exports are a large part of what makes Louisiana's energy sector such a powerhouse. In 2022 alone, [63 percent](#) of all American LNG exports left from Louisiana's export terminals. In fact, Louisiana's LNG industry is, in many ways, the linchpin for our state's critical role in supporting energy supply both domestically and internationally.

The LNG industry is also integral to Louisiana's economy – providing jobs, bolstering economic growth, and supporting local communities. The Department of Energy's (DOE) pause on LNG export permits poses a dire economic threat for Louisiana. The LNG industry broadly contributes [\\$4.4 billion](#) to our state's economy, provides [\\$178 million](#) in tax revenue, and supports over [18,000](#) jobs. To us, these are more than just numbers. These are good-paying jobs that put food on the table for thousands of Louisianan families. LNG exports provide important state revenue that contributes to our schools, rebuilding post-hurricanes, and other community investments.

In addition to the impact on our state, natural gas exports are a steadfast contributor to U.S. energy security and, by extension, our national security. In the first six months of last year, the United States [exported more LNG](#) than any other nation, with our allies in the European Union and the United Kingdom being the top destinations.

At a time when global energy security is more tenuous than ever, restricting America's ability to export LNG is an "unforced error." By restricting U.S. natural gas exports, you will not only forfeit U.S. leadership in the global energy market but weaken our geopolitical posture at a time when energy independence and security should be a top priority.

What's more, your LNG policy could inadvertently bolster U.S. reliance on less stable and less environmentally friendly energy sources worldwide, like Russia, Qatar and China. Global energy demand is only increasing, and restricting U.S. LNG exports will only drive our allies to buy LNG from America's competitors and hostile nations like Russia with less strict environmental standards. Scaling back American LNG exports is also inconsistent with the Biden administration's climate goals, by driving countries, particularly in Asia and the developing

world, to fall back on coal usage predominantly from China that produces more carbon emissions.

Your decision to suspend LNG export permits has been met with [significant opposition](#) from lawmakers on [both sides of the aisle](#). Just recently, the U.S. House Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources held hearings, highlighting strong bipartisan concern about the negative impacts of the moratorium.

In light of the above, we respectfully request the administration expeditiously reverse its policy on suspending LNG export projects. The LNG export industry is not only an economic engine but the foundation of our national security and a vital component of the global shift toward cleaner energy.

Thank you for considering our perspective. We stand ready to engage in constructive dialogue to find a path forward that upholds the interests of Louisiana and the nation at large.

Sincerely,

Louisiana Energy Export Partners (LEEP)

Louisiana Association of Business and Industry

West Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce

Central Crude

Fortify Energy

Power Torque Services

Advantous

La. Ports Association

Committee of 100-Louisiana

Southwest Alliance for Economic Development/SWLA Chamber

Louisiana Oil and Gas Association (LOGA)

Louisiana Propane Gas Association

Natchitoches Chamber of Commerce

Shreveport Chamber of Commerce

One Acadiana

Houma/Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce

Fenstermaker

Cajun Propane

Lake Arthur Butane

Lake Charles Pilots

CC: Secretary of Energy Jennifer M. Granholm
Secretary of State Antony Blinken
Deputy Secretary of Energy David Turk
Assistant Secretary of State Geoffrey Pyatt
National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan