## Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-4319

July 30, 2024

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm Secretary of Energy U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Ave SW Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Granholm,

Following the July 1 decision by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Louisiana to reverse the Department of Energy's pause on reviewing liquified natural gas (LNG) export terminal applications, we write today to urge the Department of Energy to swiftly review and approve these applications. We have grave concerns with the DOE's January 2024 "Temporary Pause on Review of Pending Applications to Export Liquefied Natural Gas," as this policy reduced the competitiveness of American energy exporters, restricted critical energy supply to key U.S. allies, and politicized an LNG export approval process that should be based on business considerations and market demand alone.

American LNG production is a boon for the U.S. and global economy, providing affordable and reliable fuel for consumers while having the potential to create between 220,000 and 453,000 jobs for Americans by 2040, according to a 2017 study<sup>1</sup>. This same analysis found that increased U.S. LNG exports have the potential to add \$73 billion to the U.S. economy by 2040. LNG also emits significantly fewer CO2 emissions than other types of energy sources, making the scale-up of this fuel essential as consumers throughout the world look to reduce their carbon footprint.

In addition, the export of this fuel was, and continues to be vital for our European allies as these countries overcome the critical energy shortages that ensued following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The economic consequences of the War in Ukraine further underscore how important it is for the U.S. to maintain its competitive advantage in energy production and remain energy independent.

Expediting approvals for LNG export permits will create American jobs, support U.S. allies, and reduce carbon emissions. This is why we strongly urge the Department of Energy to promptly review the several existing LNG export permit applications and authorize these projects immediately.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Vidas, H. (2017). Impact of LNG Exports on the U.S. Economy: A Brief Update.

Sincerely,

Jodey C. Arrington Member of Congress

Energy Export Caucus Co-Chair

Steve Scalise

Steve Scalise

Member of Congress

House Majority Leader

Henry Cuellar, Ph.D.

Member of Congress

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