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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4319

COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
SELECT REVENUE  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
TRADE  
JOINT ECONOMIC  
COMMITTEE

November 21, 2022

The Honorable Katherine Tai  
United States Trade Representative  
600 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Tai:

We write to urge the Administration to prioritize U.S. energy exports in ongoing trade negotiations with Taiwan. As the *U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade* moves forward, it would be a travesty to exclude energy exports, especially liquified natural gas (LNG), from the Initiative. Strengthened energy cooperation with Taiwan could unlock new opportunities for American energy workers and businesses, while further diversifying Taiwan's energy links to ensure it is not at the mercy of adversarial regimes or regions that export significant amounts of LNG to Taiwan, such as the Middle East, which could be impacted by regional instability or the malign influence of China. Furthermore, while the Initiative is a step in the right direction, it does not replace the significance of initiating free trade agreement negotiations with Taiwan, which would serve important economic and geostrategic goals.

As you know, American natural gas leads the world in safety and sustainability, and it can play an important role in meeting Taiwan's long-term energy needs and environmental stewardship targets. We were disappointed that energy trade was omitted entirely from the negotiating mandate for the *U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade*.<sup>1</sup> We urge the Administration to add energy security and trade as a key U.S. priority.

It is in the United States' strategic economic and security interests to ensure Taiwan has access to reliable and affordable energy imports. Taiwan plays a key role in global supply chains as the world's leader in advanced semiconductor production. Semiconductors power everyday devices like cell phones, computers, and vehicles, and the most advanced semiconductors are critical components in a wide range of national security applications such as weapons and aircraft. Taiwan's economy and manufacturers are highly dependent on energy imports to meet substantial global demand for the most advanced chips, making its energy infrastructure vulnerable to electric grid instability and supply chain disruptions. Action by the People's Republic of China to exert further economic or military aggression on the island and disrupt energy trade critical to Taiwan's manufacturing capabilities would have global repercussions. It is imperative that the U.S. help secure global supply chains by providing reliable

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08/US-Taiwan%20Negotiating%20Mandate%20\(Final\).pdf](https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08/US-Taiwan%20Negotiating%20Mandate%20(Final).pdf)

energy to Taiwan through the form of long-term and spot market LNG contracts.

Global energy demand is expected to increase by 50 percent by 2050<sup>2</sup>, and U.S. producers are more than capable of supplying our allies with America's abundant energy resources, fostering stability abroad while creating high-paying jobs and supporting environmental goals here at home. We look forward to working closely with you and the leadership of Taiwan as you assess U.S. negotiating positions in the *U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade* and beyond. Thank you for your consideration of these requests.

Cc: The Honorable Jennifer Granholm  
Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

The Honorable Richard Glick  
Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

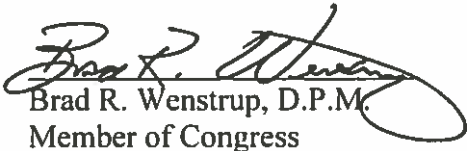
Sincerely,



Jodey C. Arrington  
Member of Congress



Carol Miller  
Member of Congress



Brad R. Wenstrup, D.P.M.  
Member of Congress



Gregory F. Murphy, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Guy Reschenthaler  
Member of Congress



Ronny L. Jackson  
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Randy K. Weber  
Member of Congress

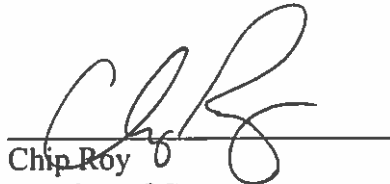


Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.iea.org/reports/world-energy-outlook-2022>

  
John R. Curtis  
Member of Congress

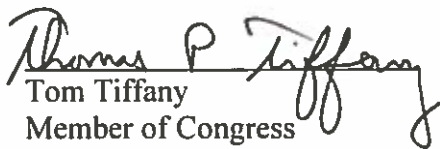
  
Beth Van Duyne  
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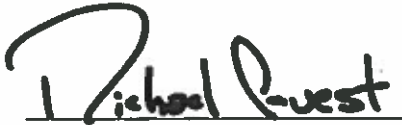
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