



October 5, 2015

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker and Leader McConnell:

As state leaders, we know firsthand the economic potential presented by the United States energy revolution. American energy producers, manufacturers and workers deserve a national energy strategy that will sustain and extend the economic growth made possible by America's rise as a global energy superpower. As part of that effort, we urge you to end the federal ban on crude oil exports and lift existing restrictions on liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports.

The United States oil and natural gas industry is fueling an economic renaissance in our states. Recent studies show lifting the ban on crude exports would create as many as 300,000 jobs nationwide by 2020. LNG exports would also significantly boost employment, adding up to 155,000 jobs in the average natural gas producing state and an additional 38,000 jobs in large manufacturing states. Without a change in the federal approach to energy exports, many of these opportunities for growth will be left on the table during a critical time in the nation's economic recovery. Worse, absent the ability to access new markets, we are concerned that more of our constituents will unnecessarily lose their jobs.

Updating our nation's energy policy to reflect this new era of energy abundance also would enhance our national security in a global energy market that is punctuated by conflict and civil unrest. Our energy policy should seek to open up economic and diplomatic opportunities for America by providing allies around the globe with an alternative to energy supplies from less friendly nations. Repealing restrictions on crude oil and LNG exports can help achieve these goals.

It is important to understand that the Federal government's approach to energy exports was born in an era of perceived energy scarcity, when imported energy dominated our resource mix and the global market was threatened by hostile international players. The United States now stands as the world's top producer of oil and natural gas; an unimaginable consideration just a few short years ago. It is time for our energy policy to reflect our new energy reality.

The outdated federal export restrictions on crude oil and LNG are detrimental to American workers, our collective security and economic recovery in our states. A broad and increasingly bipartisan coalition of United States Senators and Representatives has introduced legislation to advance a new and sensible energy export policy, and we applaud that effort. We ask you to support efforts to end the ban on crude oil exports, lift restrictions on LNG exports, and formulate a cohesive federal energy export strategy that recognizes America's new energy abundance.

Sincerely,

Alaska

State Senator Kevin Meyer, Senate President

State Senator John Coghill, Senate Majority Leader

Alabama

State Representative Randy Davis, House Majority Whip

State Representative Howard Sanderford, Chair, Boards Agencies & Commissions Committee

Arkansas

State Senator Eddie Williams, Assistant Senate President Pro Tempore

State Representative Bob Ballinger, Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Energy

Arizona

State Representative David Gowan, House Speaker

California

State Senator Jean Fuller, Senate Republican Leader

Colorado

State Senator Bill Cadman, Senate President

State Representative Brian Delgrosso, House Minority Leader

Delaware

State Senator Gary Simpson, Senate Minority Leader

State Representative Deborah Hudson, House Minority Whip

Florida

State Representative Dane Eagle, Chair, Energy & Utilities Subcommittee

State Representative Jose Diaz, Chair, Regulatory Affairs Committee

State Representative Jimmie Smith, Chair, Veteran & Military Affairs Subcommittee

Georgia

State Senator Steve Gooch, Senate Majority Whip

State Senator Hunter Hill, Senate Majority Caucus Vice Chair

State Senator John Wilkinson, Senate Majority Caucus Secretary

State Representative Matt Ramsey, House Majority Whip

State Representative Matt Hatchett, House Majority Caucus Chairman

State Representative Sam Teasley, House Majority Caucus Vice Chairman

State Representative Bruce Williamson, House Majority Caucus Secretary/Treasurer

Iowa

State Senator Tim Kapucian, Assistant Republican Leader & Ranking Member, Transportation Cmte.

State Representative Matt Windschitl, House Speaker Pro Tempore

State Representative Josh Bryne, Chair, Transportation Committee

Illinois

State Representative Jim Durkin, House Republican Leader

State Representative Bill Mitchell, Assistant House Republican Leader

Indiana

State Representative Brian Bosma, House Speaker

State Representative Jud McMillin, House Majority Floor Leader

State Representative Bob Heaton, House Majority Whip

State Representative Eric Koch, Chair, House Energy & Telecommunications Committee

State Representative David Wolkins, Chair, House Environmental Affairs Committee

State Senator David Long, Senate President Pro Tempore

State Senator Pat Miller, Assistant Senate President Pro Tempore

State Senator Brandt Hershman, Senate Majority Floor Leader

State Senator Jim Merritt, Senate Majority Caucus Chair & Chair, Senate Utilities Committee

State Senator Jim Buck, Chair, Senate Commerce & Technology Committee

State Senator Ed Charbonneau, Chair, Senate Environmental Affairs Committee

State Senator Doug Eckarty, Ranking Member, Senate Environmental Affairs Committee

State Senator Sue Glick, Chair, Senate Natural Resources Committee

State Senator Travis Holdman, Chair, Senate Insurance & Financial Institutions Committee

Kansas

State Senator Susan Wagle, Senate President

State Representative Dennis Hedke, Chair, Energy & Environment Committee

State Senator Rob Olson, Chair, Utilities Committee

State Representative Ray Merrick, House Speaker

State Representative Peggy Mast, House Speaker Pro Tempore

State Representative Jene Vickrey, House Majority Leader

Kentucky

State Senator Jared Carpenter, Chair, Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Energy

Louisiana

State Senator John Alario, Senate President

State Senator Neil Riser, Chair, Revenue & Fiscal Affairs Committee

Massachusetts

State Representative Jay Barrows

Maryland

State Representative Kathy Szeliga, House Minority Whip

Michigan

State Representative Kevin Cotter, House Speaker

State Representative Tom Leonard, House Speaker Pro Tempore

State Representative Aric Nesbitt, House Majority Floor Leader & Chair, Committee on Energy Policy

State Representative Andrea LaFontaine, Chair, House Natural Resources Committee

Minnesota

State Senator David Hann, Senate Minority Leader

State Senator Bill Ingebrigtsen, Assistant Senate Minority Leader

State Senator Warren Limmer, Assistant Senate Minority Leader

State Senator David Osmek, Senate Minority Whip

State Representative Kurt Daudt, House Speaker

State Representative Debra Kiel, Assistant Majority Leader

State Representative Tony Cornish, Chair, Public Safety and Crime Prevention Policy & Finance Committee

Missouri

State Senator Ron Richard, Senate Majority Floor Leader

State Representative Denny Hoskins, House Speaker Pro Tempore

Mississippi

State Senator Terry Burton, Chair, Senate Energy Committee

State Representative Philip Gunn, House Speaker

Montana

State Senator Debbie Barrett, Senate President

North Carolina

State Senator Bob Rucho, Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Commission on Energy Policy

State Representative Mike Hager, House Majority Leader & Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Commission on Energy Policy

North Dakota

State Senator Dick Dever, Senate President Pro Tempore

State Representative Al Carlson, House Majority Leader

State Representative Don Vigesaa, Assistant House Majority Leader

Nebraska

State Senator Ken Schilz, Chair, Senate Committee on Natural Resources

New Jersey

State Senator Steven Oroho, Member, Budget & Appropriations Committee

Assemblyman Anthony Bucco, Deputy Republican Leader

New Mexico

State Representative Nate Gentry, House Majority Floor Leader

Nevada

Assemblyman Jim Wheeler, House Majority Whip & Chair, Assembly Transportation

Ohio

State Senator Troy Balderson, Chair, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

State Senator Cliff Hite, Chair, Senate Agriculture Committee

State Senator Frank LaRose, Chair, Senate State and Local Government Committee

State Representative Jim Buchy, Assistant Majority Floor Leader

State Representative Mike Dovilla, House Majority Whip

State Representative Andy Thompson, Chair, House Finance Agriculture, Development & Natural Resources Subcommittee

Oklahoma

State Senator Brian Bingman, Senate President Pro Tempore

State Senator Mike Schulz, Senate Majority Floor Leader

State Senator Greg Treat, Assistant Senate Majority Floor Leader

State Senator Rob Standridge, Senate Majority Whip

State Senator Bryce Marlatt, Senate Republican Caucus Chair & Chair, Senate Energy Committee

State Senator AJ Griffin, Senate Republican Caucus Vice Chair

State Representative Jeffrey Hickman, House Speaker

State Representative Charles Ortega, House Majority Leader

State Representative David Brumbaugh, House Majority Caucus Chair

State Representative Elise Hall, House Majority Caucus Vice Chair

State Representative Weldon Watson, Chair, House Energy & Natural Resources

Pennsylvania

State Representative Kerry Benninghoff, House Majority Policy Chairman

Puerto Rico

State Representative Jenniffer Gonzalez, Minority Leader & Former Speaker of the House

South Carolina

State Representative Bruce Bannister, House Majority Leader

State Representative Eric Bedingfield, Chair, House Regulations & Administrative Procedures Committee

Tennessee

State Senator Bill Ketron, Chair, Senate Republican Caucus

State Representative Beth Harwell, House Speaker

State Representative Steve McDaniel, House Deputy Speaker

State Representative Glen Casada, Chair, House Republican Caucus

State Representative Charles Sargent, Chair, House Finance, Ways and Means Committee

Texas

State Senator Kelly Hancock, Republican Caucus Chair & Member, Committee on Natural Resources

State Senator Robert Nichols, Chair, Transportation Committee & Member, Committee on Natural Resources

State Senator Kel Seliger, Chair, Higher Education Cmte. & Member, Committee on Natural Resources

State Representative Tan Parker, House Republican Caucus Chair

State Representative Drew Darby, Chairman, House Committee on Energy Resources

State Representative Chris Paddie, Vice Chair, Committee on Energy Resources

State Representative Tom Craddick, Member, Energy Resources Committee & Former House Speaker

State Representative Tony Dale, Chair, House Energy Caucus & Member, Committee on Energy Resources

State Representative Phil King, Chair, State & Federal Power & Responsibility Cmte. & Member, Cmte. on Energy Resources

State Representative Brooks Landgraf, Member, Committee on Energy Resources

Utah

State Senator Wayne Niederhauser, Senate President

Virginia

Delegate Bill Howell, House Speaker

Delegate Kirk Cox, House Majority Leader

Washington

State Senator Jim Honeyford, Senate Republican Deputy Floor Leader

State Representative Dan Kristiansen, House Republican Leader

State Representative Paul Harris, House Minority Whip

Wisconsin

State Senator Scott Fitzgerald, Senate Majority Leader

State Senator Alberta Darling, Chair, Committee on Finance & Co-Chair, Joint Finance Cmte.

State Representative Robin Vos, House Speaker

State Representative Jim Steineke, House Majority Leader

State Representative John Nygren, Chair, Committee on Finance & Co-Chair, Joint Finance Committee

State Representative Dean Knudson, Member, Joint Finance Cmte. & Assembly Finance Committee

West Virginia

State Senator Bill Cole, Senate President & Lieutenant Governor

State Senator Mitch Carmichael, Senate Majority Leader

Delegate Eric Nelson, Jr., Chair, House Finance Committee

Wyoming

State Senator Drew Perkins, Senate Vice President

State Senator Michael Von Flatern, Chair, Minerals, Business & Economic Development Committee

State Representative Tim Stubson, House Speaker Pro Tempore

State Representative Hans Hunt, House Majority Whip

State Representative Tom Lockhart, Chair, Minerals, Business & Economic Development Committee

State Representative Norine Kasperik, Member, Minerals, Business & Economic Development Committee