



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **WSJ STORY ILLUSTRATES HOW AUSTRALIAN LNG EXPORTS RESULTED IN A DOMESTIC SHORTAGE FOR CONSUMERS**

WASHINGTON, DC – The Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) President, Paul N. Cicio, issued the following statement following a July 11 Wall Street Journal [story](#) titled “How Energy-Rich Australia Exported Its Way Into an Energy Crisis.”

“We applaud the Wall Street Journal on their story on how the Australian government failed the public and their manufacturing sector by failing to put consumer safeguards in place. Foreign consumers benefited from LNG exports, while Australian consumers saw natural gas prices skyrocket. Shortages forced power plant outages and manufacturers were forced to cut back production or shutdown. Manufacturers continue to leave the country, resulting in the loss of good paying jobs.

“The U.S. is following the same failed policy. There are no consumer protections in place on U.S. LNG exports. Currently, a breathtaking volume equal to 71 percent of 2016 U.S. natural gas supply has been approved for exports.

“The Energy Information Administration’s (EIA) Annual Energy Outlook (AEO) 2017 forecasts that cumulative demand in 2050, only 33 years away, indicates that 56 percent of all U.S. natural gas resources in the lower 48 states will be consumed. Natural gas is unique and a valuable resource for manufacturing jobs and investment, for which there is no substitute.

“The U.S. still has time to put common-sense consumer safeguards in place now.”

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*The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.0 trillion in annual sales, over 2,600 facilities nationwide, and with more than 1.7 million employees worldwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through advocacy and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: chemicals, plastics, steel, iron ore, aluminum, paper, food processing, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, building products, automotive, brewing, independent oil refining, and cement.*