



## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT: Marnie Satterfield**

(202) 223-1420

[msatterfield@ieca-us.org](mailto:msatterfield@ieca-us.org)



### **IECA URGES OVERSIGHT HEARINGS ON DOE'S PLANS TO APPROVE LNG EXPORTS TO NFTA COUNTRIES EQUAL TO 71 PERCENT OF U.S. DEMAND**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – The Industrial Energy Consumers of America sent a [letter](#) to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce requesting oversight hearings regarding DOE's intent to approve excessive LNG exports to non-free trade agreement (NFTA) countries, and urging them to fully implement the intent of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) to protect U.S. consumers long-term. Action is necessary because the global LNG market is not a free market and buyers of LNG who will compete for natural gas with U.S. consumers are state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and foreign government-controlled utilities. There are no safeguards in place for U.S. consumers.

On December 28, 2018 the DOE released a "Study on Macroeconomic Outcomes of LNG Exports: Response to Comments Received on Study." In the report, it states that the DOE intends to approve volumes for shipment to NFTA countries up to 52.8 billion cubic feet a day (Bcf/d) of natural gas, a volume equal to 71 percent of 2017 U.S. demand. Volumes of this magnitude cannot possibly be in the public interest under the NGA and would do serious harm to consumers and the U.S. economy long-term.

The DOE has made this determination using a proprietary economic model, which violates the Congressional intent of the Data Quality Act (DQA), and makes it impossible for third-party economists to challenge the findings of the report, which is used to justify higher LNG export volumes. The public is unaware of this long-term threat and no one is defending them, nor providing the necessary oversight to protect the public's interests.

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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 3,700 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.*