



## **Industrial Energy Consumers of America**

*The Voice of the Industrial Energy Consumers*

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March 10, 2015

The Honorable Edward Markey  
U.S. Senate  
218 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

***Re: IECA Supports S. 585, the “American Natural Gas Security and Consumer Protection Act”***

Dear Senator Markey:

On behalf of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA), we support passage of S. 585, the “American Natural Gas Security and Consumer Protection Act,” which requires that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) fully consider the impact that accelerated cumulative LNG exports would have on American households, manufacturing and businesses, and our national security. Current law favors allowing LNG exports to the detriment of the domestic consumer. S.585 would turn this presumption in favor of consumers, the economy, and job creation here at home.

The DOE has already approved eight LNG export terminals, which accounts for more than 12 billion cubic feet a day (Bcf/d) of U.S. natural gas, equal to a 16.3 percent increase in 2014 demand. The DOE has found that exporting less than half the total volumes of natural gas that have already been approved for export could raise U.S. prices by up to 54 percent. It is critically important that the LNG export approval process favors consumers, our economy, and our national security, given the large volumes of natural gas exports that have already been approved. A total of 41 applications totaling 40.8 Bcf/d for shipment to free trade countries have already been approved by the DOE. And the FERC is evaluating 15 LNG export applications, totaling cumulative volumes of 16.7 Bcf/d.

IECA represents energy-intensive trade-exposed (EITE) companies, which are significant consumers of natural gas. EITE industries consume 75 percent of the entire manufacturing sector’s use of natural gas (29% of U.S.). It is for this reason, that affordable natural gas is vital to manufacturing competitiveness.

Thank you for your leadership on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Cicio  
President