



## PRESS RELEASE

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**CONTACT: Marnie Satterfield**

(202) 223-1420

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



### **S. 1155, THE “LICENSE NATURAL GAS (LNG) NOW ACT” IS NOT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST**

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) is [strongly opposed](#) to S. 1155, the “License Natural Gas (LNG) Now Act.” The bill is touted as legislation to remove unnecessary restrictions on LNG exports when in fact, it is entirely about removing a vital consumer protection provision under the Natural Gas Act (NGA) which requires that shipments of LNG to non-free trade agreement (NFTA) countries must not be inconsistent with the public interest. NFTA countries are the largest buyers of LNG. NFTA countries also discriminate against the importation of U.S. manufactured and agricultural goods. Limits to LNG exports are in the public interest because the global LNG market is not a *free* market and essentially all of the LNG buyers are state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and foreign government-controlled utilities.

Despite the NGA’s consumer protection provision, **NO** application to export LNG has ever been delayed or denied by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The LNG export volume already approved by the DOE is enough to supply nearly 100 percent of the European Union’s LNG import capacity.

On December 28, 2018, the DOE filed comments in the Federal Register which stated that they intend to approve LNG exports for shipment to NFTA countries equal to 52.8 Bcf/day, a volume equivalent to 71 percent of 2017 U.S. natural gas demand. Exports of this magnitude cannot possibly be in the public interest and violate the NGA.

The U.S. has only 57 years of technically recoverable natural gas resources in the lower 48. The U.S. Energy Information Administration’s Annual Energy Outlook (AEO) for 2019 states that the U.S. total demand, which includes net exports from 2018 to 2050, is 1,277 Tcf. The EIA states that there is 2,215 Tcf of technically recoverable resources.

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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.*