



PRESS RELEASE

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MANUFACTURERS DO NOT SUPPORT THE DOE LNG EXPORT PROCEDURAL CHANGES

Today, the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) urged the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to maintain the existing procedure that puts the public interest test first when determining whether to approve an LNG export application for shipment to non-free trade countries, and the FERC approval process second. The revised procedures threaten the integrity of the process by creating, at a minimum, the appearance of a perverse incentive – a kind of “regulatory capture.”

“Determining whether an LNG export application will not be consistent with the public interest should, as the Natural Gas Act makes clear, come first, not last,” said Paul N. Cicio, President of IECA. “The core issue is, and always has been, to consider LNG exports on an application-by-application basis, and on a cumulative basis – answering the question as to whether the applicant’s proposed LNG export volume for shipment to non-free trade countries will not be consistent with the public interest.”

Congress understood that LNG exports could have significant consequential impacts to the U.S. economy and the public’s welfare. And, the Natural Gas Act makes this legal priority very clear, as well as the sequence of the legal process for an applicant.

IECA’s comments also urge the DOE to make its public interest decision process transparent. Decisions on how much LNG to export are critically important to the entire economy and for future generations, yet the DOE has acted without transparency of how the decisions are made. Congress has entrusted the DOE to make these decisions that are literally determining energy and economic policy for the country. IECA believes that natural gas use in manufacturing maximizes job creation and should be a high priority.

Knowledge and transparency are the foundation for sound public policy.

[View IECA’s comments to DOE on the LNG export procedures.](#)