



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 25, 2017

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MANUFACTURERS SEEK FAIR-TRADE AND “AMERICA FIRST” LNG EXPORT POLICY FOR SHIPMENTS TO NFTA COUNTRIES

GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED BUYERS DOMINATE LNG MARKET

WASHINGTON, DC – The Industrial Energy Consumers of America’s (IECA) President, Paul N. Cicio, issued the following statement today regarding a [letter](#) that IECA sent to Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer. The letter urges the Administration to establish a national LNG export policy for shipments to non-free trade agreement (NFTA) countries, which is consistent with fair-trade policies.

“Buyers of the LNG are state-owned enterprises (SOEs) or fully regulated state-controlled utilities that have automatic cost pass-through, which means the LNG market is not a free or fair market and would place U.S. consumers at a disadvantage long-term. In future peak demand scenarios, U.S. consumers cannot compete with the buying power of countries.

“Excessive LNG exports to countries with which the U.S. does not have a free trade agreement are inconsistent with President Trump’s “America First” and fair-trade policies, and poses a significant long-term threat to manufacturing competitiveness and jobs.

“Shipping LNG to NFTA countries rewards them for not having a free trade agreement with the U.S. and reduces negotiating leverage to secure fair-trade agreements to support exports of manufactured goods.”

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.