



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **MANUFACTURERS OPPOSE H.R. 4605, THE “UNLOCKING OUR DOMESTIC LNG POTENTIAL ACT”**

WASHINGTON, DC – The Industrial Energy Consumers of America’s (IECA) President, Paul N. Cicio, issued the following statement today in response to a [letter](#) sent to Congressman Bill Johnson in regards to his legislation, H.R. 4605, the “Unlocking our Domestic LNG Potential Act.”

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has already given approval to export LNG to free trade agreement (FTA) countries and non-free trade agreement (NFTA) countries equal to 71.2 percent of 2016 U.S. natural gas demand. This is an extraordinarily large volume of exports that by itself would substantially increase natural gas and electricity prices, and damage the U.S. economy and jobs.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) is forecasting NYMEX natural gas prices to rise 87 percent by 2020. EIA attributes the price rise in large part due to several LNG export terminals becoming operational. Also, according to the EIA’s Annual Energy Outlook for 2017, cumulative net demand, which includes exports of LNG increasing to 12.1 Bcf/d (currently DOE has already approved 20.6 Bcf/d for shipment to NFTA countries), will consume 56 percent of all technically recoverable natural gas resources in the lower 48 states by 2050.

H.R. 4605 removes prudent and long-standing Natural Gas Act (NGA) consumer protections designed to limit LNG exports to countries with which the U.S. does not have a free trade agreement.

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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 3,400 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.*