



COMMISSIONER WAYNE CHRISTIAN

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

1701 N. CONGRESS AVE. AUSTIN, TX 12967

512-463-7134 | WAYNE.CHRISTIAN@RRC.TEXAS.GOV

June 25, 2024

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Remove LNG Ban to Provide Life-Saving Reliable Energy to Ukraine

President Biden:

I strongly urge you to immediately rescind your administration's pause on new liquified natural gas (LNG) exports. This politically motivated ban is doing more than simply costing America economic activity—it's jeopardizing European allies and American interests abroad.

The United States is a top global exporter of LNG, which has provided reliable energy to Europe during the ongoing Ukraine-Russia conflict. Before the conflict began, many European nations decreased fossil fuel production to prioritize increasing unreliable energy sources (such as wind and solar) to meet unattainable and incredibly stupid net-zero climate goals; and therefore, became too reliant on hostile nations – like Russia – for reliable energy.

As a result, Russia has been able to capitalize on the West's decarbonization policies and rake in hundreds of billions from their oil and gas production, which is continuing to fund the unjust war against Ukraine. In fact, Europe still receives about 15 percent of its gas from Russia. Quickly trying to fix this problem, European imports of American LNG has increased 77 percent since the war began. Our European allies need more American LNG, not less.

To wit: it was recently reported that Ukraine struck a deal with a U.S. LNG company DTEK/CP2 to purchase up to two million tons of natural gas each year. Your administration's ban on LNG exports, however, is prohibiting this deal from going forward because CP2 falls under your moratorium.

At a time when our allies need U.S. energy the most, your administration is making it harder for them to access it. Ukraine's deal for American LNG could be the leverage the West needs to gain an upper hand on Putin by ending Europe's reliance on Russian energy.

American energy rescuing Europe is nothing new. During WW II, six out of every seven barrels of oil the allied forces used to win the war came from the U.S., with Winston Churchill crediting East Texas oil a savior. Wars can be won or lost based on access to resources like energy. Our nation's energy strategy should be to increase our domestic fossil fuel production and export that reliable energy to our allies across the globe.

Mr. President, I strongly urge you to reconsider your pause on new LNG export facilities, so that the world can once again buy more clean, cheap, plentiful, and reliable American natural gas. U.S. fossil fuels can once again be the 'hope of the free world' – but only if you let it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Christian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Wayne Christian
Commissioner
Railroad Commission of Texas