



September 29, 2015

The Honorable Fred Upton  
Chairman  
House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2322A Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Ranking Member Pallone:

On behalf of America's Natural Gas Alliance and the American Petroleum Institute, we write to express our strong support for the Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015, specifically Title II, which would foster collaboration between federal and state governments, educational institutions, industry, and labor to encourage and promote diversity in the energy and manufacturing sector. In addition, we write to express our strong support for the natural gas export provisions of the Amendment. These provisions are based on H.R. 351, the LNG Permitting Certainty and Transparency Act, which the House passed by a bipartisan vote of 277 to 133 in January of this year.

The 21st century energy renaissance has created unprecedented opportunities for Americans of all backgrounds. This potential is outlined in a study conducted by IHS, entitled, "Minority and Female Employment in the Oil and Gas and Petrochemical Industries." The study estimates that over 950,000 job opportunities could be created by 2020 and nearly 1.3 million job opportunities through 2030 in America's oil and natural gas and petrochemicals industry. These are careers that pay well above the national average. The report estimates that there are nearly 408,000 job opportunities that are projected to be filled by African American and Hispanic workers, and 185,000 projected to be filled by women. We believe these estimates, based on trends in labor force participation and education, should be considered a floor, not a ceiling. Expansion of education and workforce training programs will help ensure competitive access to job opportunities. Title II of this bill promotes the education and workforce training needed to ensure that underrepresented communities can secure a growing number of new opportunities in the energy sector, and we strongly support this effort.

Regarding liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports, the Amendment includes a streamlined process for natural gas export projects before the Department of Energy which will accelerate America's rise as a world-class exporter of natural gas, create U.S. jobs, grow our economy, and significantly strengthen the global energy market. In addition, expediting the free trade of natural gas from America will help enhance our national security interests and bolster the independence of our global allies.

Technological breakthroughs in the oil and natural gas industry have unleashed an energy renaissance, establishing the United States as the world's largest natural gas producer. We have enough natural gas to both supply affordable energy domestically and significantly increase U.S. participation in the global market for LNG. The LNG exports provision provides the Department of Energy a meaningful deadline to make decisions on

pending applications that have completed the extensive environmental review process. Advancing this legislation will institute greater certainty into the LNG exports permitting process thereby accelerating investment in the U.S. economy and strengthening our strategic alliances abroad.

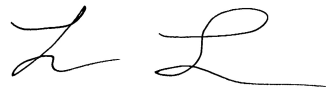
Since 2005, natural gas production in the United States has increased 42 percent. The U.S. Energy Information Administration projects a 39 percent increase in total natural gas production from 2014 to 2035, and study after study agrees that expanding our export opportunities will create jobs, strengthen our economy, and enhance our national and energy security.

As this legislation moves forward, ANGA and API strongly encourage members of the Committee to support the Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute as introduced and oppose any efforts to undermine or stall America's future growth as an energy superpower.

Sincerely,



Frank J. Macchiarola  
Executive Vice President, Government Affairs  
America's Natural Gas Alliance



Louis Finkel  
Executive Vice President, Government Affairs  
American Petroleum Institute