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Secretary Wilbur Ross
United States Secretary of Commerce
United States Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Secretary Dan Brouillette
United States Secretary of Energy
United States Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Ambassador Robert Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

As we operate in extraordinary times, the U.S. oil and natural gas industry is focused on continuing to provide the energy that is essential to dedicated first responders, essential government workers, businesses, and communities across the nation. To enable a resilient return to more normal operating levels, policies that reinforce energy's foundational role in society will best serve U.S. national security and help accelerate economic recovery.

During this period, we commend the strong leadership from the Administration to address various stresses on industries like ours. Recent federal actions have addressed U.S. crude storage capacity, non-essential compliance timelines, and engagement with world leaders to address a harmful oversupply situation. We are mindful that additional challenges remain in many sectors of the economy, including energy. As we consider the near-term economic impacts from the pandemic, oversupply and associated storage constraints may still pose problems within the United States. Clearly, a return to typical levels of consumer demand will be the most beneficial path to resolving this situation. However, increased exposure to targeted export markets is also essential.

With that in mind, China will need access to energy in the near-term and the United States is



well-positioned to provide for this need. In the recently signed Phase 1 Agreement, China agreed to purchase in 2020 an additional \$18.5B over their 2017 purchases of various U.S. energy products, including crude and LNG cargos. This amount, in today's markets, could translate into significant export quantities, but still not equal the full extent of China's overall domestic energy demand. Accordingly, further examination of this Agreement may present opportunities to address our domestic oversupply and at the same time, further advance U.S. international objectives. We encourage the Administration to look to this important Phase 1 Agreement as an opportunity to strengthen America's energy security and provide for much needed balance to the global markets.

We welcome the Administration's leadership during these challenging times and trust that, working together, the U.S. economy will emerge on a stronger footing. Thank you for your recognition of U.S. energy leadership and the importance of global energy export markets and please do not hesitate to contact us in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Sommers".

Michael J. Sommers