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## **American Exploration & Production Council Sends Letter to Secretary Chu in Support of Natural Gas Exports**

Washington, DC - The American Exploration & Production Council ("AXPC") today released a letter sent to Secretary of Energy Steven Chu in support of the Department of Energy's study on the economic effects of the export of natural gas conducted by NERA Economic Consulting. The study concluded that the export of natural gas yields substantial benefits and a net economic gain to the US economy in all scenarios studied and is in the national interests of the US. AXPC expressed full support both for the Study and for the export of natural gas. Recent extraordinary technological advances and the willingness of AXPC members and other independent E&P companies to take risks and invest significant capital has created the incredible abundance of natural gas our nation now enjoys. As a result, US industrial consumers now have a competitive advantage. Moreover, the US has a strategic advantage with respect to a critical commodity that it must not allow to slip away. Increase demand for natural gas will ensure the continued search for US supplies and the jobs and economic growth that comes with such efforts.

In connection with the release of the letter, AXPC's President, Bruce Thompson, said, "**Artificial restrictions on the demand for abundant US natural gas would result in reduced demand for this prized American resource and in a needless loss of jobs, decreased capital investment in the US and in a reduction in US economic growth. Such restrictions would inflict unnecessary damage on our nation's economy. Conversely, the increase in economic activity that would result from the export of natural gas would benefit all. Our nation's abundant supply of natural gas combined with a thoughtful and appropriate public policy permitting the export of natural gas will ensure economic growth and long-term, affordable supplies of domestic natural gas. AXPC and its members look forward to working with the Administration to achieve these extremely desirable results.**"

The American Exploration & Production Council (AXPC) represents 32 of the nation's leading independent natural gas and oil exploration and production companies. Our members safely provide the secure, domestic supplies of natural gas and oil America needs to heat its homes, to operate its farms and to fuel its economy. We are committed to doing what is right to ensure the abundant energy supplies in environmentally responsible ways. Learn more about AXPC at [www.axpc.us](http://www.axpc.us).

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