Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA)
The Voice of the Industrial Energy Consumers

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November 17, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: H.R. 1949, the "Unlocking our Domestic LNG Potential Act of 2025" is Inconsistent with President Trump's Pledge to Put America First

Dear Leaders Johnson and Jeffries:

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America do not oppose LNG exports. We do oppose H.R. 1949, the "Unlocking our Domestic LNG Potential Act of 2025" because the bill prioritizes LNG exports over U.S. consumers by removing long standing Natural Gas Act consumer protections embedded in Section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA). H.R. 1949 is inconsistent with President Trump's "America First" agenda. LNG exports are forecasted to increase 136 percent in the next five years (see Figure 1) and natural gas producers say they will struggle to meet LNG growth demand.[1]

Prices are already increasing. The November 13, 2025 Wall Street Journal story "Natural Gas Prices Hit Highest Level Since Invasion of Ukraine" reported that natural gas prices reached their highest levels since December 2022, with December futures settling Thursday at $4.646 per million British thermal units, up 67 percent from a year ago.[2] For every one dollar increase in the Henry Hub natural gas price, consumers pay on average $34 billion more for natural gas and $20 billion more for electricity, or $54 billion annually.[3] One hundred percent of our member companies are from the manufacturing sector and are price sensitive.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has already approved a significant volume equal to 48 Bcf/d for shipment to non-free trade agreement (NFTA) countries, which equals 49 percent

[1] "US gas producers will struggle to meet LNG export growth-Expand CEO," S&P Global Market Intelligence, September 18, 2025, https://www.ieca-us.org/wp-content/uploads/SPGlobal_Export_9-18-2025_8a8c85a8-bb40-444a-bcfd-8f1e07660801.pdf
[2] Natural-Gas Prices Hit Highest Level Since Invasion of Ukraine, Wall Street Journal, November 13, 2025, https://www.wsj.com/finance/commodities-futures/natural-gas-prices-hit-highest-level-since-invasion-of-ukraine-b21409bb?mod=Searchresults&pos=1&page=1
[3] Natural Gas, U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), https://www.eia.gov/naturalgas/

of 2024 net supply.[4] Why then is it in the public interest for Congress to remove consumer protections? This is not a national security issue. What is approved is far more than enough to supply our allies.

When Congress passed the NGA several years ago, it initiated an "America First" energy regulation. Congress, in their wisdom, understood that natural gas is essential to the economy and that U.S. consumers do not have an alternative, which makes them vulnerable. Section 3 of the NGA requires that exports to NFTA must not be inconsistent with the public interest. About 80 percent of U.S. LNG is shipped to NFTA countries. The public interest includes impacts to prices of natural gas and reliability. Section 3 gives DOE wide latitude to protect U.S. consumers now and in the future as larger amounts are exported.

H.R. 1949 removes Section 3 and the protection that it affords. The bill removes DOE's authority and responsibility to consider the public interest when considering approval of new LNG exports volumes to NFTA countries.

LNG exports do have the ability to impact domestic prices. U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) data proves that LNG export volumes are highest during our winter peak heating season months of November through March, which accelerates a reduction in U.S. inventory, increasing the prices of U.S. natural gas and electricity and reducing reliability. The severity of the problem increases as export capacity increases (see Figure 2).

Unlike manufacturing companies, LNG customers are countries who are insensitive to price and will pay any price to keep the lights on in their country. No matter how high U.S. prices will go, they will buy away U.S. natural gas even when our winter inventories fall and prices rise. The LNG 20-year contracts shift supply and price risk from LNG buying countries to U.S. consumers and the economy.

For all of the above reasons, we urge you to oppose H.R. 1949 and preserve consumer protections.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Cicio
Paul N. Cicio
President & CEO

cc: U.S. House
The Honorable Chris Wright
The Honorable Doug Burgum

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with $1.3 trillion in annual sales, over 12,000 facilities nationwide, and with more than 1.9

[4] Summary of LNG Export Applications of the Lower 48 States, U.S. Department of Energy, https://www.energy.gov/fecm/articles/summary-lng-export-applications-lower-48-states

million employees. One hundred percent of IECA members are manufacturing companies whose competitiveness is largely determined by the cost and reliability of natural gas and electricity. IECA's sole mission is to reduce and avoid energy costs and increase energy reliability through advocacy in Congress and regulatory agencies, such as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including chemicals, plastics, steel, iron ore, aluminum, paper, food processing, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, consumer goods, building products, automotive, independent oil refining, and cement.

FIGURE 1

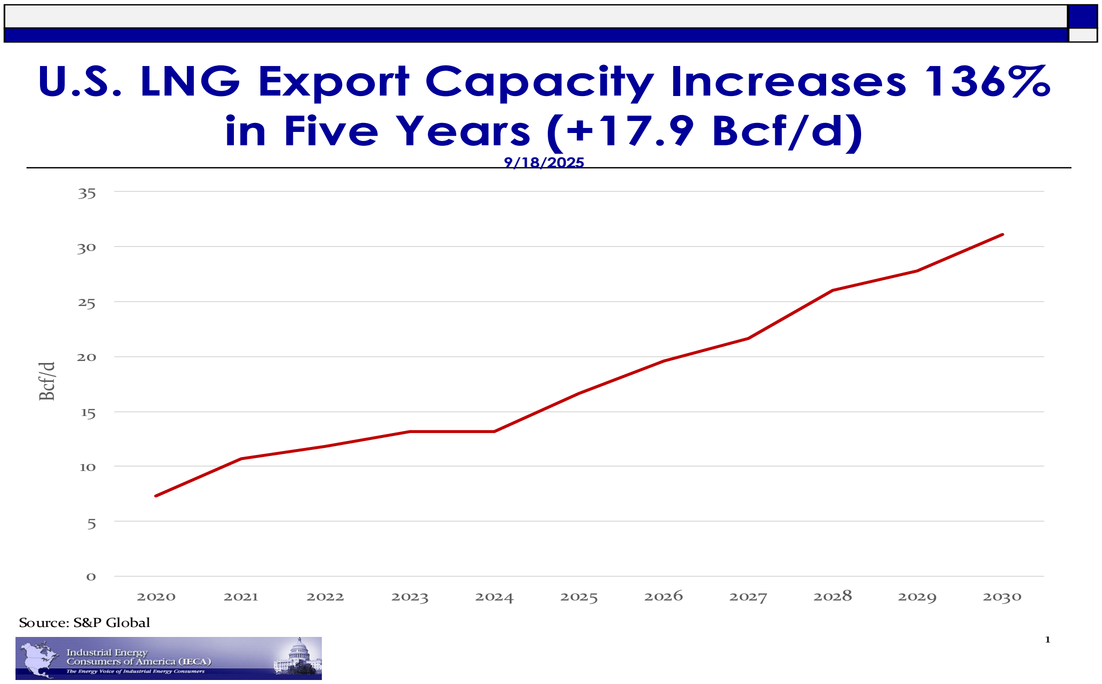

FIGURE 2