

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

R. BRUCE JOSTEN
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

1615 H STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20062-2000
202/463-5310

July 21, 2015

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ed Whitfield
Chairman
Energy and Power Subcommittee
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bobby Rush
Ranking Member
Energy and Power Subcommittee
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Upton and Whitfield and Ranking Members Pallone and Rush:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than three million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations, and dedicated to promoting, protecting, and defending America's free enterprise system, commends the Committee for asserting its leadership in crafting the multi-title energy bill related to the "Architecture of Abundance."

America's energy landscape has changed dramatically over the last decade and it is crucial that federal energy policy reflect these changes in order to maximize and prolong the benefits this energy renaissance is producing. This draft bill addresses many important energy policy issues, and the Chamber is appreciative of the Committee's efforts on this draft bill.

This draft bill is noticeably silent on the issue of exporting domestically-produced natural gas or crude oil. No area of energy policy is in more need of update to reflect the vastly different energy disposition the U.S. now faces compared to when these policies were implemented in the 1970s. The current policies constraining natural gas exports and barring oil exports are costing America's economy jobs and new growth at a time the country can least afford it. The Chamber encourages the Committee to include provisions removing the barriers to exporting natural gas and crude oil in this bill, report out separate legislation addressing these issues, or preferably, both.

The Chamber appreciates the Committee's foresight and leadership on these important issues and looks forward to continuing to work with the Subcommittee and full Energy and Commerce Committee on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Bruce Josten". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "R." and last name "Josten" being more prominent.

R. Bruce Josten

cc: Members of the Committee on Energy and Commerce