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February 3, 2022

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Granholm,

As the executive director of a non-profit organization dedicated to energy, I read with great interest the letter sent to you by a coalition of United States Senators representing cold-weather states urging, "swift action to limit U.S. natural gas exports." The senators are correct to call your attention to the increasing costs of home heating that are squeezing middle-class American families this winter. Unfortunately, their proposed policies would not only exacerbate the problem, but are also responsible for the current plight.

Since taking office more than a year ago, your administration has restricted supply of domestic sources of energy. Pipelines have been cancelled, leasing for oil and gas development has been halted and Obama-era regulations have returned. At the state level, certain blue state governors have gone even further. For example, New York Governor Kathy Hochul is calling for a statewide ban on natural gas in buildings, despite its role in keeping so many of her constituents warm.

The senators are pushing America down a path recently chosen by Germany, whose attempts to transition to green sources of energy have left them reliant on Russian natural gas in the middle of winter. Because these new forms of energy are less reliable than traditional sources, Germany must look elsewhere to fill the gap. If these senators have their way, Germany will be cut off from American natural gas exports, putting them further at the mercy of the Kremlin and other hostile nations.

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It is also equally stunning to watch as the Biden Administration reaches out first to OPEC and now Qatar, formerly a regional outcast, to help shore up natural gas supplies in the event of a Russian invasion. Qatar has been accused of cozying up to Islamist groups and Iran, but because they are the world's largest export of natural gas, President Biden has no choice but to bring them into the fold.

If the concern is truly environmental, surely we can all agree that gas from Qatar is no dirtier or cleaner than natural gas produced here in the United States. The only differences are the economies and workers who are being supported by its development and production.

Every day American families are waking up to the failure of unreliable sources of energy. The high prices being forced upon us are just the first symptom of this faulty strategy. Germany has shown us what the future holds for the United States if we continue down this road. We are asking you to be honest about the fact that these are the very real consequences of the Biden Administration's climate agenda.

Thousands upon thousands of Americans who, until recently, have made their living delivering domestic, reliable energy, stand ready to get back to work delivering the crucial energy our country, and our allies, desperately need. We ask that you listen to them, and not Senators who are posturing at best, and outright denying they are the partially the problem at worst, with their recent letter.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I stand ready to assist you in any good-faith effort to ease our current energy crisis.

Sincerely,

Daniel Tumer

Founder and Executive Director

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