



Board of County Commissioners

April 17, 2014

Faye Griffin
District No. 1
Casey Tighe
District No. 2
Donald Rosier
District No. 3

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
House Committee on Energy and
Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Cory Gardner
U.S. House of Representatives
213 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ed Whitfield
Chairman
House Subcommittee on Energy and Power
2184 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tim Ryan
U.S. House of Representatives
1421 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for H.R. 6, the Domestic Prosperity and Global Freedom Act

Dear Subcommittee Chairman Whitfield, Chairman Upton, Representative Gardner and Representative Ryan:

I am writing today to urge your support of H.R. 6, the Domestic Prosperity and Global Freedom Act, sponsored by Rep. Cory Gardner.

As you know, energy production is a critical part of Colorado's economy. A recent report by the University of Colorado's Leeds School of Business found that the oil and natural gas industry employs more than 110,000 people across the state, contributes \$1.6 billion annually in state and local taxes and generates almost \$30 billion in economic activity each year.

The adoption of H.R. 6 would create even further opportunities for Colorado. We are fortunate to have an abundance of natural gas reserves. Colorado and the U.S. have a remarkable opportunity to provide safe and reliable energy resources by exporting liquefied natural gas (LNG) across all World Trade Organization (WTO) countries.

Currently, countries across Europe and Asia have indicated an interest in expanding their natural gas energy production through imports from the U.S. and elsewhere. This is especially true in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and Europe's deep dependence on natural gas imported from Russia. Recently, the governments of Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic even wrote



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to U.S. lawmakers to ask for more shipments of U.S.-produced natural gas, because Russia's energy dominance is "one of the most important security challenges that America's allies face in Central and Eastern Europe today."

Besides helping our allies, expediting permits for LNG export facilities currently before the Department of Energy and removing barriers to future permits will keep the U.S. competitive in the growing global market for clean-burning natural gas. We should not miss this rare opportunity, and by passing H.R. 6, we won't.

As a Jefferson County Commissioner, I am acutely aware of the impact the energy industry has on our local budgets. We also understand how beneficial the jobs created by this industry are to our community. Not only are the tax dollars paid by the industry an important part of our budget but so is the economic prosperity that is created by stable and well-paying jobs.

By growing the market for natural gas produced in Colorado, H.R. 6. would further our ability to fund infrastructure projects, schools and other critical services with the tax revenues generated by the oil and gas industry. Additionally, we would see more of the high-paying, family-supporting jobs that the oil and gas industry has brought to Colorado.

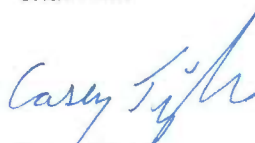
For these reasons, I support the passage of H.R. 6.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Faye Griffin
Chairman



Casey Tighe



Donald Rosier