



Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
Hearing on "Opportunities and Challenges for Natural Gas"  
American Chemistry Council Statement for the Record

February 12, 2013

The American Chemistry Council\* is pleased to submit for the hearing record our Executive Committee's unanimously approved position related to energy and competitiveness (see attached).

The policy re-emphasizes our strong support for a comprehensive "all of the above" energy strategy to support U.S. economic growth and the growth of the chemical industry.

The policy also restates ACC's support for free market policies that promote the export of American-made goods, including liquefied natural gas. The Executive Committee unanimously expressed its opposition to any new export bans or restrictions on liquefied natural gas, such as a moratorium on export terminals or the prohibition on the export of natural gas produced on public lands.

While there is broad agreement among ACC members on these key principles, there is not a clear consensus on the issue of whether the Natural Gas Act's public interest requirement should be further defined in export permitting to non-FTA countries.

ACC will continue to discuss this issue. ACC members will also continue to work together to vigorously advocate for sound energy and related regulatory policies that will ensure the availability of abundant, diverse energy supplies and stable reliable energy markets.

\*The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people's lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care®, common sense advocacy designed to address major public policy issues, and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is a \$760 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is one of the nation's largest exporters, accounting for ten cents out of every dollar in U.S. exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation's critical infrastructure.





## **ACC POLICY ON ENERGY AND COMPETITIVENESS**

ACC supports public policies that promote the availability of competitively priced natural gas and feedstock to support the continued growth of the chemical industry in the United States. To that end, ACC supports free trade principles in the context of U.S. energy policy. Natural gas has enormous potential to renew and grow the American chemistry industry, the entire domestic manufacturing sector, and the U.S. economy at large, creating jobs and more exports of manufactured goods. America needs to couple rules-based free trade principles with an “all of the above” energy strategy to ensure we are fully developing our domestic energy resources, including natural gas, and taking full advantage of each energy source to promote sustained economic growth.

### **ELEMENTS OF ACC POLICY ON ENERGY AND COMPETITIVENESS**

- ACC supports a market-based “all of the above” national energy policy anchored in maximizing access to competitively priced domestic energy supplies, using energy efficiently and developing a diverse set of energy sources.
- An abundant, competitively priced and reliable supply of natural gas and natural gas liquids (NGLs) has created a manufacturing renaissance in the United States. ACC supports policies that promote our industry’s competitive advantage, such as public policies and positions that encourage the responsible production of natural gas and NGLs.
- As America’s largest export industry, we support exports of American-made products, including liquefied natural gas (LNG).
- ACC supports the application of existing trade rules (including WTO commitments and bilateral Free Trade Agreements) to all exports, including LNG.
- Consistent with U.S. trade laws, we oppose imposition of any new LNG export bans or restrictions, such as those that would impose a moratorium on export terminals or prohibit exports of gas produced on public land. We support full compliance with the Natural Gas Act in the issuance of LNG export permits, including the presumption that exports to Free Trade Agreement countries are in the public interest.
- There is a lack of clear consensus among our members concerning whether the Natural Gas Act’s “public interest” requirement should be further defined in export permitting for non-FTA countries. ACC therefore will further study this issue and ways to achieve consensus.
- ACC will also continue to monitor the U.S. energy situation, including natural gas supply/demand scenarios, and their implications for global competitiveness of the industry.

