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The Honorable Cheryl LaFleur
Acting Chairwoman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Chairwoman LaFleur:

Last week, I spoke at the Brookings Institution about the significant opportunity that the United States now has to expand our energy trade. My remarks were based on a white paper that I concurrently released, entitled, "A Signal to the World: Renovating the Architecture of U.S. Energy Exports."

Given your interest and involvement in these issues, I am enclosing a copy of my speech and white paper along with this letter. I am hoping they will help spark a new and national conversation on U.S. energy trade regulations – and lead to broader recognition of the need to modernize them in a measured yet urgent manner. I also solicit comments from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

If we are to find success in this endeavor, we will need to work together – and quickly. Just as natural gas exports must be accelerated before the narrowing window of opportunity closes, so, too, must we move to modernize our regulations on crude oil exports before production, prices, and employment are harmfully impacted. I look forward to working with you and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on this important matter as we start the New Year.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator