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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

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April 10, 2014

The Honorable Adam Sieminski
U.S. Energy Information Administration
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Administrator Sieminski:

You know better than most the true magnitude of the North American energy renaissance. Thanks in part to the efforts of the Energy Information Administration, we have watched with great interest as oil and gas production continues to break records.

While we are aware that the EIA has limited resources and numerous reporting requirements to the Congress, we would like to convey the interest of our Committee in the issue of crude oil exports, which are largely banned by statute. As you know, the possibility of lifting the ban – partially or completely – has emerged as a subject of critical concern here in the Congress.

Areas of interest include:

- Current and projected production of crude oil and condensate of varying grades;
- U.S. refining capacity and distribution, including the ability of U.S. refiners to process domestically produced crude oil and condensate of varying grades;
- The position and competitiveness of U.S. refiners in relation to global refining markets;
- The economic impact of continuing current policy in regard to exports on U.S. crude oil and condensate production as it relates to American consumers, upstream producers and the U.S. refining industry;
- The economic impact of changing current policy in regard to exports, specifically easing or lifting restrictions on exports, on U.S. crude oil and condensate production as it relates to American consumers, upstream producers and the U.S. refining industry; and
- Logistics associated with U.S. crude oil and condensate production, including rail capacity.

This is a complex puzzle that is best solved with dynamic and ongoing analysis of the full picture, rather than a static study of a snapshot in time. We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,



Mary Landrieu
Chairwoman



Lisa Murkowski
Ranking Member