

From: Davis, Christopher
Sent: Fri, 26 Jan 2024 17:16:41 +0000
To: Turk, David
Cc: Raines, Sandie; Katta, Kaushik; Degen, Greg (Gregory); Bartol, Bridget
Subject: Quick call

Deputy—if you have a second between lab meetings can you please give me a quick call? Thank you!

Christopher Davis

(b) (6)

From: Davis, Christopher
Sent: Fri, 26 Jan 2024 21:01:22 +0000
To: Walsh, Samuel; Zevin, Avi; Turk, David
Cc: Davenport, Shari
Subject: FW: message to your bosses

FYI

From: Grant, Sheila B. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 3:10 PM
To: DL EOP Cabinet Reports <(b) (6)>
Cc: Sharma, Saloni EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] message to your bosses

All,

This just went from Jeff to your bosses. Please ask your Comms teams to refer any questions to Saloni Sharma in White House Comms: (b)(6).

Hi team –

Thank you for submitting your existing protocols for a delegation of authority. We received every agency's submission by the deadline and the White House has reviewed them. Through your submissions, you demonstrated your commitment to notifying the White House in the event of a delegation – and upon assumption of a delegation, establishing contact with the White House.

While there are variations in your submitted protocols due to different authorizing statutes, regulations, and executive orders, through this process we are assured that all agencies have a set of standard protocols they must follow in the event of a delegation of authority.

To reiterate, moving forward, every delegation of authority in your agency must ensure it covers the following areas:

- Notifying the Offices of Cabinet Affairs and White House Chief of Staff. This notification should occur when agencies anticipate or are preparing for a delegation of authority and again when the delegation occurs.
- Documenting in writing that the delegation of authority is in effect.
- Upon assumption of delegated authorities, establishing contact between the Acting Principal and their White House principal policy counterpart.
- Ensuring delegations are issued when a Cabinet Member is traveling to areas with limited or no access to communication, undergoing hospitalization or a medical procedure requiring general anesthesia, or otherwise in a circumstance when he or she may be unreachable.
- Documenting in writing both the delegation and recission of authority.
- Ensuring all other legally required external notifications.

Thanks,

JZ

This message does not originate from a known Department of Energy email system.
Use caution if this message contains attachments, links or requests for information.

From: Crabtree, Bradford
Sent: Thu, 25 Jan 2024 23:10:58 +0000
To: Zaidi, Ali A. EOP/WHO
Subject: Call today

Ali, Thanks for elaborating on CP2. I was focused on trying to dispel the misperception that it is before DOE already and should have emphasized the fact that, if it is approved by FERC, it would then be considered by DOE but subject to any changes in our public interest review as a result of the updated analysis. Glad you provided more context given the sensitivity.
Brad

From: Davis, Christopher
Sent: Wed, 24 Jan 2024 18:58:44 +0000
To: Crabtree, Bradford
Subject: Davis, Christopher replied to a comment in "1.23.24_DRAFT Message Q&A"
Attachments: 67f8f12a-6201-4fab-8387-15ed6ceebfe5, 2eded702-df5a-4a3a-8139-c13f9fc29566, 63dbc64d fc7d 4182 a726 d46bcd012b9, cd085c63 2202 4da1 af08 4ac6c559a7ac, b5e4f261-60a7-44a3-8485-b51b116bffbc, 75221ea1-df1b-4044-9868-9829db1be0e0, e2640f30-67ac-43e3-b4f9-a432edd24feb



1.23.24_DRAFT Message Q&A.docx



You left a comment



Bartol, Bridget left a comment



Bartol, Bridget left a comment



Davis, Christopher replied

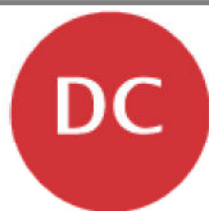
[Go to comment](#)

[Why am I receiving this notification from Office?](#)



[Privacy](#)
[Statement](#) | [Notification](#)
[Settings](#)





From: Degen, Greg (Gregory)
Sent: Wed, 24 Jan 2024 17:31:21 +0000
To: Turk, David; Bartol, Bridget; Crabtree, Bradford; Davis, Christopher; Frisch, Carla; Gibbs, Claire; Hooghan, Priyanka; Light, Andrew; Nerurkar, Neelesh; Thompson, Janie; Troiano, Charisma L; Walsh, Samuel; Ward, Rebecca; Zevin, Avi
Subject: RE: Bartol, Bridget shared "1.23.24_DRAFT Message Q&A" with you
Attachments: 1.23.24_DRAFT Message Q&A_DT.docx

Bridget,

This is Dave using Greg's computer. Attached please find a bunch of proposed edits and comments (the doc will say the edits / comments are from Greg, but they're directly from me). Sorry not to include directly in the share drive version, but we're literally on the road right now (with spotty connection).

In particular, I tried to move a few things around and reframe the up front TPs.....they seemed a bit too defensive to me. I also made a few suggestions in the Q+A but happy to work on that more going forward as helpful.

Happy to talk at your convenience.

Dave

From: Turk, David <david.turk@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 10:18 PM
To: Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>; Crabtree, Bradford <bradford.crabtree@hq.doe.gov>; Davis, Christopher <christopher.davis@hq.doe.gov>; Frisch, Carla <carla.frisch@hq.doe.gov>; Gibbs, Claire <claire.gibbs@hq.doe.gov>; Hooghan, Priyanka <priyanka.hooghan@hq.doe.gov>; Light, Andrew <andrew.light@hq.doe.gov>; Nerurkar, Neelesh <neesh.nerurkar@hq.doe.gov>; Thompson, Janie <Janie.Thompson@hq.doe.gov>; Troiano, Charisma L <charisma.troiano@hq.doe.gov>; Walsh, Samuel <samuel.walsh@hq.doe.gov>; Ward, Rebecca <rebecca.ward@hq.doe.gov>; Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>
Cc: Degen, Greg (Gregory) <greg.degen@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: Re: Bartol, Bridget shared "1.23.24_DRAFT Message Q&A" with you

Thanks, Bridget. Will try to take a look tomorrow between stops.

From: Bartol, Bridget <bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 7:39 PM
To: Crabtree, Bradford <bradford.crabtree@hq.doe.gov>; Davis, Christopher <christopher.davis@hq.doe.gov>; Frisch, Carla <carla.frisch@hq.doe.gov>; Gibbs, Claire <claire.gibbs@hq.doe.gov>; Hooghan, Priyanka <priyanka.hooghan@hq.doe.gov>; Light, Andrew <andrew.light@hq.doe.gov>; Nerurkar, Neelesh <neesh.nerurkar@hq.doe.gov>; Thompson, Janie <Janie.Thompson@hq.doe.gov>; Troiano, Charisma L <charisma.troiano@hq.doe.gov>; Turk, David <david.turk@hq.doe.gov>; Walsh, Samuel <samuel.walsh@hq.doe.gov>; Ward, Rebecca <rebecca.ward@hq.doe.gov>; Zevin, Avi <avi.zevin@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: Bartol, Bridget shared "1.23.24_DRAFT Message Q&A" with you



Bartol, Bridget shared a file with you

CLOSE HOLD: Hi Deputy and team, as previously mentioned. This document includes draft topline and announcement messaging, some key statistics and a tough Q&A section. Additional at the bottom of the document is a skeleton rollout plan. This document so far has been reviewed by GC and FO, and had one round of feedback from a small segment of EOP. Appreciate your discretion and the small circle until we have more certainty but potentially announcing on Friday. Please track changes. Bridget



1.23.24_DRAFT Message Q&A



This link only works for the direct recipients of this message.

[Open](#)



[Privacy Statement](#)

DRAFT, DELIBERATIVE, PRE-DECISIONAL 1.24.24 9:15 amET

VERSION: 1.24.24 9 am ET

Audiences: Natural Gas Industry, Market Analysts, National Security, Economic and Environmental Experts and Advocates.

Topline:

- The Department of Energy is committed to strengthening the affordability of energy and economic opportunities for all Americans; strengthening U.S. energy security here in the US and with our allies; and while ensuring America leads protecting Americans against climate change and winning the clean energy future.
- Congress has given the Department of Energy the responsibility to evaluate the factors whether additional authorizations for the export of LNG to non-Free Trade Agreement countries is in -within the context of what's in the "public interest".
- In order to do that, DOE must use the most complete, updated and-and robust information analysis possible on market, economic, national security, and environmental considerations (-including greenhouse gas emissions like CO2 and methane), and other factors as the agency evaluates pending and future LNG export applications.
- Much has changed since the Department last made major updates to our analysis in 2019. In [2019], the US was exporting only 4 bcf/d; today we're at 14 bcf/d and have another 12 bcf/d under construction. The US is the global leader in LNG exports—with U.S. LNG exports expected to double by the end of this decade, and an additional 20 billion cubic feet per day of capacity already authorized for exports by DOE that is awaiting a final investment decision. All told, DOE has authorized LNG exports of [48] Bcf/day, which is [four] times the amount we're currently exporting and nearly half of total domestic natural gas production.
- We also know that our world has changed a lot—we now have an even greater understanding of the market need globally (including the latest IEA analysis showing global demand for natural gas peaking this decade), the planned supply for years to come, and the worsening impacts of carbon and methane pollution.
- The Department of Energy has a responsibility to evaluate the factors within the context of what's in the public interest.
- In order to do that, DOE must use the most complete and robust information on market, economic, national security, environmental, including greenhouse gas emissions like CO2 and methane, and other factors as the agency evaluates pending and future LNG export applications.
- That's why today, we are issuing a pause on all pending LNG export authorizations, kickstarting a process to update the economic and environmental assessments that DOE uses to inform whether additional authorizations would be in the public interest.
- The administration believes this analytical update and pause is a practical-prudent action that will ensure the most up-to-date economic and environmental analyses are being utilized, including to protect against unintended or unnecessary energy cost increases on everyday American consumers and businesses.
- Importantly, a temporary pause to update our analyses will not impact our ability to supply our allies in Europe. Last year, the U.S. exported roughly half of U.S. exports went to Europe and we have worked with them to successfully economize consumption and manage their storage to

Commented [GD1]: Seems like our lead bullet needs to crisply lay out all components of what "public interest" means....

Commented [LA2]: This may come across as reckless. Throughout we claim the pause is to make sure we protect US consumers' interests, but without any figures on US demand. So, saying that we have authorized facilities to export half of our gas could sound like we haven't been considering US consumers' interests until now. Suggest adding stats on how much demand we have at home or cutting this point here and below in the hard Q&A.

Commented [NN3R2]: Agree it raises questions about past actions, but much of that was done by prior administrations and our previous decisions were colored by Ukraine/Russia. And it does help contextualize why we think we may have gone far enough. Note, putting it relative to demand may look even more reckless. Export capacity is ~46% of dry gas production but its ~53% of gas consumption (denominator excludes net exports).

Commented [BB4R2]: That's why we're taking the pause, we've never experienced a situation where nearly half of production was authorized for export. If anything I think it makes the opposite point. However agree it would be good to have some statistics about US supply-demand that can support why this action is us trying to get the house in order before we end up in a position that hurts domestic economy and american families/businesses.

Commented [BB5R2]: See edits to this point in the Q&A below that provides more context on its use.

Commented [TMME6]: Worth adding a definition here of what public interest means?

Commented [ZA7R6]: We've explicitly not defined the time to give ourselves maximum flexibility

Commented [BB8R6]: We've never defined "public interest" and the statute doesn't define it. But we've said what factors we consider to be important for the public interest: availability of gas supply; economic impacts including GDP, price, consumer, and competitiveness; foreign policy and energy security, and environmental (including climate).

Commented [GD9]: I would be very careful to not just speak about our European allies. We should either explicitly include Asian allies or at least include Japan by implication.

ensure that Russia cannot threaten their security of supply. In addition, ~~we have an additional 12 Bcf/day under construction that is not impacted by this pause and represents that is twice our current exports to Europe. We also appreciate the importance of our exports to key allies in Asia such as Japan and South Korea. 6 Bcf/day (60 Bcm) to Europe, as compared to the 48 Bcf/d of LNG exports that DOE has authorized in total.~~

Messaging Announcement Details:

- DOE is committed to strengthening our energy security and achieving our clean energy goals, and our natural gas strategy is aimed at safeguarding the energy security of our nation and U.S. allies; ~~decarbonizing the natural gas value chain to achieving~~ net-zero emissions by midcentury and protecting American consumers and the economic competitiveness of domestic industry and manufacturing.
- The US is the global leader in LNG exports. ~~We currently export 14 Bcf/day have operating liquefaction capacity for export of 14 Bcf/day and have another 12 Bcf/day worth of capacity projects currently under construction.~~ In addition to these facilities that are already operating or under construction there is still over 20 billion cubic feet per day of export capacity ~~already approved by DOE and that is~~ awaiting a final investment decision. All told, DOE has authorized LNG exports of [48] Bcf/day, which is [fourthree] times the amount we're currently exporting and ~~nearly roughly half~~ of total domestic natural gas production. Together, U.S. LNG exports will double by the end of this decade.
- Our world has changed a lot. ~~DOE's existing analyses of the economic and environmental effects of LNG exports do not account for these changing circumstances or recognize the volumes already approved.~~ So, today, DOE is announcing that it has started a process to update the economic and environmental assessments that DOE uses to inform ~~whether additional authorizations would be in the public interest.~~
- This action will result in a pause ~~on all pending~~ LNG export authorizations until the analyses are updated. ||

~~To be clear, c~~Current authorizations ~~already approved by DOE~~ ~~which, again, would potentially enable a quadrupling/tripling of current LNG export volumes~~ ~~would not be affected.~~

- ~~For the same reason~~Consequently, a temporary pause to update our analyses will not impact our ability to supply our allies in Europe ~~and Asia~~ in the near term. U.S. LNG shipments to Europe ~~in since~~ 2022 have played a critical role in helping the region backfill its lost gas supplies from Russia and reduce energy dependence on Russia amidst Putin's invasion of Ukraine, with over 60% of U.S. LNG exports going to Europe in 2022 and 2023.
- ~~In addition, U.S. export capacity will increase by 12 Bcf/day by 2030—nearly a doubling of current capacity—without any further export approvals by DOE based on projects currently under construction. These e~~Existing DOE authorizations under construction ~~already amount to double what we exported to Europe last year could enable a further multi-fold increase in LNG exports to Europe and other allies this decade. Projects currently under construction, and they~~ are expected to bring online an additional 3 bcf/day or more by end of 2025 alone.
- DOE's public interest determination is ~~primarily~~ to protect US consumers, economic competitiveness, foreign policy, and ~~the~~ environment. We take that seriously. Any review must

Commented [LA10]: Shouldn't the comparison be with what we exported last year and not the amount authorized? 48 is a projection of capacity into the future. On the one hand we could be charged with being disingenuous by exaggerating spare capacity. On the other we could sound like the percentage of

Commented [BC11R10]: We could state what we

Commented [LA12R10]: I think that would be much

Commented [NN13R10]: Could we say that most of

Commented [AL14R10]: I think it would be half

Commented [BC15R10]: Signed off last night after

Commented [NN16]: Might stick to either exported

Commented [BC17R16]: We would have to use

Commented [BB18R16]: Capacity is the

Commented [BC19]: Our authorizations represent

Commented [GD20]: Good point....perhaps also

Commented [BC21]: @Zevin, Avi GC should review

Commented [BC22R21]: Think we have language in

Commented [BB23R21]: @Zevin, Avi I believe you

Commented [RMVE24]: Don't need to say in

Commented [BB25R24]: Clock has started but

Commented [BC26]: Do we want to expand the

Commented [BC27R26]: Would at that only

Commented [BC28R26]: Correction above: "Would

Commented [BB29R26]: @Zevin, Avi @Walsh,

Commented [TMME30]: Do we need to also note

Commented [BB31R30]: I don't think we should

Commented [NN32]: Suggest deleting. By using the

Commented [BC33R32]: Agree. Have made the

Commented [BC34R32]: And combined with next

Commented [GD35]: I would be careful about

Commented [NN36]: Delete. If this point isn't clear

Commented [BC37R36]: Repetition of this is

Commented [BB38R36]: I think we should keep

Commented [BC39]: We should try to be more

Commented [NN40R39]: How about "... under

Commented [BC41R39]: Agreed. Made the revision

Commented [BB42R39]: Good update.

be supported by rigorous and updated data. Our existing orders rely on data from 2017 and 2019, respectively.

- The administration believes this update and pause is a practical-prudent action that will ensure the most up-to-date economic and rigorous economic and environmental analyses are being utilized to protect against unintended or unnecessary energy cost increases on everyday American consumers and businesses.
- This action will not affect any existing authorization; it is ensuring that any newly requested or pending review authorization requests are in the best interest of Americans, and we are able to affordably meet demand at home and be best positioned to compete as global energy markets evolve.
- By updating the analyses now, we intend to be better informed to avoid export authorizations that diminish our domestic energy availability, weaken our security, and undermine our overall economy, and lead to even worse climate change consequences. This could happen by causing domestic consumers and manufacturers to face higher energy prices because of competition with overseas markets, or by selling our energy resources to competitor countries that don't align with our or our allies' values.
 - This will not undermine or effect existing authorizations. Currently authorized but not exporting is quadruple/triple current exports and nearly half of our domestic production.
 - For example, Europe needed 15 bcf a day pre-invasion; we are currently giving/sending them 6 bcf/d and what we've authorized to date is nearly three times as much of all Russian gas to Europe pre-invasion.
- These economic and climate analyses were last updated five and four years ago, respectively, with the Economic Assessment's using underlying data comes from the 2017 EIA's Annual Energy Outlook, and the lifecycle assessment update happening in 2019. This action will allow DOE to use the most complete and robust information on market, economic, national security, environmental, including greenhouse gas emissions like CO2 and methane, and other factors as the agency evaluates pending and future applications.
 - It will use the most up-to-date data and analysis/model and reference assumptions, in line with EIA's Annual Energy Outlook 2023 and other's updated resources/analysis. The EIA AEO 2023 stated that global natural gas storage volumes in the US and in allied nations were near capacity heading into the winter months and US exports had increased.
 - It also analyzed existing facilities and projects under development and estimates that the US is already exporting and constructing at expected levels of supply that the global market will need through 2050.
 - Additionally, EIA's analysis showed that DOE's already approved authorizations account for nearly all of the expected supply needs in a high demand case through 2050.
- This action is not a definition of the public interest. This action is an update of analyses that are considered when making a public interest determination.
- The LNG market and related issues — including economic, climate change, and global energy security considerations — are dynamic. DOE's LNG program continuously evaluates evolving national and energy security, economic, environmental, and other factors.

Key Statistics of US LNG (January 2024):

Commented [TMME43]: Is there anything we can say about the data from this time? For example, does DOE have full faith in the 2017 and 2019 updates? Before this most recent update, when was the next most recent update?

Commented [BB44R43]:

Econ studies were 2012, 2015, 2018. LCA was 2014 and 2019.

Addendum (upstream environmental impacts of fracking) was 2014

First authorization of exports from a large-scale LNG export facility was 2011 for Sabine Pass

Commented [BC45]: Do we really want to introduce this notion at this juncture? This is potentially a huge flag and could have responding on terrain that is less favorable than the rest. This focus could come later with a lot more analysis and thought to how we might respond to the dynamics it would generate.

Commented [BB46R45]: This isn't topline messaging it's broader announcement messaging so I think it would be better to have this if needed than to not reference it. It's raising the risk of not taking the moment to get our data updated to meet the state of the market and supply-demand expectations going forward.

Commented [BB47R45]: @Davis, Christopher as I know he had thoughts about this point.

Commented [NN48]: This seems off. Currently authorized but not yet exporting capacity is triple current exports. Currently authorized (exporting and not exporting) capacity is half of domestic

Commented [BC49R48]: Made edits to correct the mistakes, but this is feeling completely repetitive in a way that is not necessary and could just be deleted.

Commented [BB50R48]: In our broader LNG talkers we should make sure we shift all talking points to be quadruple rather than triple and base it off total

Commented [RMVE51]: Q's related to the EU-US TF:
- Was the TF commitment for 2023 – 2030 50bcm per year total, or an additional 50bcm per year on top of 2021 levels of US LNG export to EU (22bcm)?

Commented [BB52R51]: IA/FECM to address.

Commented [LA53R51]: Our understanding is that the commitment is at least 50 p/y to 2030.

Commented [GD54]: This is confusing to me; recommend deletion.

DRAFT, DELIBERATIVE, PRE-DECISIONAL 1.24.24 9:15 amET

- Five years ago (2018), U.S. LNG export capacity was less than 4 billion cubic feet per day (bcf/d).
- On LNG exports overall, the United States has recently surpassed Qatar to become the top global exporter of LNG in the world.
- Today, export capacity has reached 14 bcf/d.
- It's slated to nearly double by 2030, reaching 26 bcf/d based on facilities now under construction— putting the US on track to further exceed second-ranked Qatar's LNG export capacity by more than 50 percent after capacity additions in both countries are complete later this decade.
- Additionally, DOE has already authorized a total of 48 bcf/d of exports. That is nearly half of the natural gas we produce (103.6 Bcf/d in 2023).
- During this administration, DOE has approved 7 applications for non-FTA exports totaling 2.3 billion Bcf/d.
- Exports to China: 3.6% of U.S. exports in 2023 based on preliminary shipping data.
- Europe Reserves: At end-December, total storage fill in Europe (excluding Ukraine) was 91.9 Bcm, 12% above 2019-22 levels.
- Amount sent to Europe in 2022/2023 (meeting our commitment)
- Add something on decreasing EU demand
- Data point related to delivering or continuing to support allies in Asia

Tough Q&A

What is DOE's role in this process?

DOE's role is to protect the interests of American businesses and families and act as a backstop to ensure export of our domestic energy resources does not negatively affect hard-working Americans.

DOE has a responsibility to protect US consumers, we take it seriously. Our decision needs to be supported by data. Our existing orders rely on data from 2017 and 2019 respectively. Our world has changed since then, including volumes of exports we have authorized.

We need to be able to confidently evaluate requests in a way that helps decipher: What does it mean for the US to export half the natural gas it produces? Will exporting such volumes mean that consumers and business here in the US will pay more? What are the economic, health, environmental and security effects? What does that mean for the competitiveness of US businesses v businesses in China? And other questions like that?

What led to this decision? Why did you wait until now?

We've approved applications that would allow for a tripling of today's exports and represents half the natural gas that the US produces. DOE has regularly updated the foundational studies that help us evaluate exports across a wide range of long-standing considerations, including economics, security, competitiveness, and environment — current analyses are based on data more than 5 more than XX years old. A lot has changed. We've approved applications that would allow for a tripling of today's exports and represents nearly half the natural gas that the US produces. The last time these were updated, the US was exporting capacity 4 bcf/d, today we're at 14 bcf/d and have another 12 bcf/d under construction giving us confidence we can continue to meet market and allies energy needs.

Commented [GD55]: Good to also know how much of increased LNG demand globally is expected to come from China.....

Commented [TMM56]: Would recommend we add a point here to contrast increasing EU supply with rapidly decreasing EU demand. CPO can pull from external sources. That said, is there a source DOE would prefer to use here?

Commented [TMM57R56]: EU Demand is Decreasing
1/11/24 Reuters Article:
[https://www.reuters.com/breakingviews/eus-energy-security-drive-may-have-gone-too-far-2024-01-11/#:~:text=MILAN%2C%20Jan%2011%20\(Reuters%20Breakingviews,from%20Russia%2C%20chiefly%20via%20pipelines.](https://www.reuters.com/breakingviews/eus-energy-security-drive-may-have-gone-too-far-2024-01-11/#:~:text=MILAN%2C%20Jan%2011%20(Reuters%20Breakingviews,from%20Russia%2C%20chiefly%20via%20pipelines.)

If all projects under construction are finalized, the EU's LNG import capacity could balloon to nearly 350 bcm by the end of the decade, from just 160 bcm in 2021, according to forecasts from research firm Rystad Energy. Yet the bloc's total gas demand is set to fall to 340 bcm by [2030], down 19% from 2021. That means Europe's projected 2030 LNG capacity would be higher than all the gas the bloc may need.

Commented [BB58R56]: We'll review and update this.

Commented [LA59]: See above. Not sure if this point helps our messaging.

Commented [BB60R59]: Reorganized this answer to this but think we should keep it it's an example of how much has changed since this was last updated.

DRAFT, DELIBERATIVE, PRE-DECISIONAL 1.24.24 9:15 amET

This decision was made independent of any one project and with the recognition that exports from currently operating, under construction, and authorized facilities likely meet demand through 2050 based on latest economic and market analysis from EIA.

So, you're saying no new factors will be considered in this update?

Our past analysis has always evaluated several factors: economics, including GDP, energy prices and competitiveness, geopolitical dynamics, energy security and foreign policy, and environmental impacts, including greenhouse gas emissions like CO2 and methane. The fact is we've always looked at a wide range of inputs and we want to make sure that it's representative of where we are today. A lot has happened in four years and American consumers have felt that in many ways. Our intent is to make sure we consider the significant changes that have happened globally and at home as a result of the recent volatility and shifting supply and demand landscape. DOE decisions always need to be data driven.

How long will DOE pause authorizations? When will the analysis be done?

We will work expeditiously on the update to these fundamental analyses. Once the analyses are updated, they will be put out for public comment period before they are finalized. We anticipate this will take several months to update prior to a public comment period.

If pressed: I can't provide a more specific timeline estimate today, as we want to ensure the team has the necessary information and resources it needs to complete this update. When we have [more information that certainty](#), the update is nearing completion and ready for public comment, we'll share that.

What does this pause mean for already pending projects?

We will work expeditiously on the update to these foundational analyses. However, there will be no authorizations processed until the analysis is updated.

Are you concerned with the message this sends to our allies and trade partners?

We take seriously our responsibility to support our allies and this action will have no negative effect on US or allied nation's energy security because of strong ongoing exports and the pace at which already authorized projects are progressing this decade to meet expectant demand. We are proud that US LNG providers were able to support our European allies following Putin's [despicable actions vindicative interruption of their gas supply after they stood with Ukraine](#), and we are well positioned to keep that promise while we update the analysis to reflect the latest data related to economic, energy, technology, security, and environmental factors.

Do you worry that this will undermine the financial viability of US-based projects compared to foreign-based projects?

The purpose of DOE's review is to evaluate the use of the resource and ensure the export is in the public interest before it leaves our shores. DOE's role is to make sure that anything authorized does not have a negative impact on American families and business. We have a responsibility to protect US consumers, we take it seriously. It needs to be supported by data. Our existing orders rely on data from 2017 and 2019, respectively. Our world has changed since then, including [huge](#) volumes of exports we have authorized. It's important we update it.

DRAFT, DELIBERATIVE, PRE-DECISIONAL 1.24.24 9:15 amET

Has DOE considered or worried about the market or financial ramifications of domestic projects that are “ripe” or pending in front of the department being put on hold?

The U.S. is the number one exporter of LNG in the world since 20XX. In total, the DOE has authorized 48 bcf/d. Currently, the US exports 14 bcf/d, which is double the next largest exporter. Additionally, based on projects already under construction, industry is on pace to double current exports by 2030, bringing total US LNG exports to 27 bcf/d.

This decision to update our foundational analysis is to ensure it accurately reflects the latest economic, demand and security landscape; It was made independent of any one project and with the recognition that current operating, under construction and authorized likely meets demand through 2050 based on latest economic and market analysis from EIA.

How long has DOE been contemplating this action? Is that why it hasn’t approved Commonwealth?

This decision to update our foundational analysis is to ensure it is accurately reflecting the latest data; it was not made in response to any specific project.

The U.S. is the number one exporter of LNG in the world. In total, the DOE has authorized 48 bcf/d. The US exports 14 bcf/d, which is double the next largest exporter. Additionally, industry is on pace to nearly double current exports by 2030, bringing total US LNG exports to 27 bcf/d, putting us on track to further exceed Qatar, the second largest global exporter, by 50%.

The department has also approved authorization requests for an additional roughly 20 bcf/d that is awaiting a final investment decision.

Are you pausing because of climate activists increasing opposition to CP2?

This decision to update our foundational analysis is to ensure it is accurately reflecting the latest economic, geopolitical, environmental and market need estimates; it was made independent of any one project. [We appreciate input from all different perspectives.](#)

Are you only doing this because of the President’s failure to achieve his climate promises ahead of the next election? Why didn’t you do this sooner?

[This President’s record on climate is unprecedented.....](#)

Our world has changed a lot since DOE last analyzed the economic and environmental impacts of natural gas exports, and DOE has never evaluated the impacts of exports at volumes beyond what is already authorized. Natural gas is a key component to powering American homes and businesses, what this program does is evaluate a range of factors to determine effect of this resource leaving our shores. Ultimately, DOE’s role is to make sure that anything authorized does not have an outsized or negative price, supply, or environmental and public health effects on American families and business.

That means we have a responsibility to use the most up to date data to inform our reviews and decisions.

Why do you need to pause while you do a study? In the past, like during the last admin, they did not?

A lot has changed since 2018, the last time these analyses were sincerely updated. At that time, the US was only exporting 4 bcf/d. Now we’re the number one global exporter, with 14 bcf/d, and have

Commented [GD61]: We should look for opportunities such as questions like this to play a little offense....

Commented [MMTE62]: Is this necessary to say?

Commented [BB63R62]: We think it's important in a Q&A to at least acknowledges it a large part of the electricity system so updated to reflect.

DRAFT, DELIBERATIVE, PRE-DECISIONAL 1.24.24 9:15 amET

authorized nearly three times that, with half those projects slated to come online **this** decade—doubling our current exports.

DOE has a responsibility to ensure that its decisions protect U.S. families, businesses and our domestic energy resources based on the best available evidence. In carrying out that responsibility, DOE expects to refrain from issuing new authorizations until these important analyses are complete.

This action is placating climate activists and risking alienating our allies and undermining US competitiveness to actors like Putin and other countries with abundant natural gas, why is this administration willing to risk energy security at home and for our allies?

A temporary pause to update our analyses will not impact our ability to supply our allies in Europe. Last year, the U.S. exported roughly 6 Bcf/day (60 Bcm) to Europe, **as compared to the 48 Bcf/d of LNG exports that DOE has authorized in total.**

Let me also add that President Biden and the rest of us in his Administration take our responsibilities on climate change incredibly seriously, and the President's record of accomplishments during his first term is unprecedented. As we tackle climate change head on, we're also creating clean energy jobs across our country and diversifying supply chains.

Additional questions

We should also add in some Q+A on the following:

- Why are you worried about additional LNG exports adding to climate change when US LNG has such a good track record of substituting and displacing coal?
 - Answer could focus on long-term nature of LNG facilities and considering climate impacts (and what gas might be displacing) over multiple decades.

Commented [LA64]: See concerns above about comparing actual exports to a projected estimate of future exports.

Commented [GD65]: I would look for any and all opportunity to play offense on climate and remind reporters, etc. of our overall record.

TENTATIVE DRAFT PRE DELIBERATIVE-- NOT SOCIALIZED -- Rollout Strategy

Materials:

- DOE press release (PA)
- One pager (for media, stakeholders, and Hill): Purpose: Rational action in the interest of American families, consumers and businesses, certainty to allies and maintaining competitiveness. Framed current LNG authorization; supply-demand expectations; other relevant message points. (OP/FECM/IA)

Press

Reuters: Coral Davenport, NY Times (exclusive – paywall)

Tim Gardener, Reuters (exclusive—no paywall) long history covering department, more objective reporting,

Embargoed press call morning of with:

DRAFT, DELIBERATIVE, PRE-DECISIONAL 1.24.24 9:15 amET

- Bloomberg: Ari and Jen
- S&P:
- Politico/E&E: Ben L and Zack C
- FT: Shotaro Tani or energy.source@ft.com (other POC?)
- Axios: Ben or Andrew

Tier 2:

- Washington Post
- HEATED
- Canary
- Washington Examiner
- Washington Times
- Fox News
- AP
- Houston Chronicle
- Louisiana
- LA Times
- WSJ (Houston, DC, NY desks)

DOE Participant: S1/S2 OR ?

WH Participant: CPO and/or NSC?

External Stakeholder

Before it's live

Tailored 1:1 calls to key analysts, influencers, advocates.

Industry/Analyst (DOE/others?)

- Frank Maisano Bracewell
- Bob McNally Rapidan
- Jason Bordoff CUEP
- Michael Stoppard, global gas strategy lead at S&P Global Commodity Insights ([article](#))
- Daniel Myers, Senior Research Analyst for Wood Mackenzie ([article](#))
- Kevin Book, Clearview
- Fatih Birol, IEA

Financials (NEC/DOE?)

- Citi/Goldman/JP Morgan

LNG Companies: DOE

- 1:1 or email outreach morning of to already authorized entities before news breaks stressing this does not affect already reviewed requests.

Commented [GD66]: Happy to help do whatever necessary here, even from the road.

Commented [GD67]: I would strongly urge us to add an NEC person to really focus on the economics piece. Podesta would, of course, also be great here.

DRAFT, DELIBERATIVE, PRE-DECISIONAL 1.24.24 9:15 amET

Advocates (DOE/NEC/NSC/CPO/CEII)

- Climate and environmental groups
- Community groups previously engaged (LA/TX)
- API, AGA, [LNG Allies](#), [Center for LNG](#) [LNG-Association](#)

International Allies: IA/NSC

- Day of: Mexico, CAN, EU, [Germany](#), [UK](#), Japan, Korea, India?

After it's live:

Background briefing/webinars for stakeholders (industry, advocates, security, analysts and climate) after it's live to drive inbound inquiries to. Similar to background press call but without option for Q&A. Media can also be directed to it.

Congressional Engagement

Tactic? Call, 1:1s, emails?

Day before:

Day of:

Commented [BB68]: @Ward, Rebecca