

Aric Newhouse

Senior Vice President
Policy and Government Relations

January 26, 2015

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to support S.A. 15, offered by Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) to a bill to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline.

The NAM was founded over 100 years ago to promote open markets and free trade for domestic manufacturers. These principles are embedded in our policies today, including those for energy exports. Consistent with these policies, we have called on the Department of Energy (DOE) to provide applicants an up-or-down decision on license applications for new liquefied natural gas (LNG) export facilities as quickly as possible. The DOE recently modified its licensing procedures with the goal of making the Department “better able to ensure prompt action on applications that are otherwise ready to proceed,” but even with these new procedures in place there remain delays in making final license decisions. Continued delay likely constitutes, in and of itself, a violation of our international obligations under the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The Cruz amendment would put the United States in compliance with its own international obligations under the WTO by allowing an expedited approval process to export natural gas to WTO member countries. It does not impact the economic, environmental or safety studies that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and other agencies are required to conduct, nor does it remove any other regulatory requirement. As part of our commitment to exports and free trade, the NAM supports the Cruz amendment.

The NAM’s Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on Cruz S.A.15, or on procedural motions related to the amendment, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 114th Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Aric Newhouse

Key Manufacturing Vote