



**SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY POLICY,
NATURAL RESOURCES AND
REGULATORY AFFAIRS**

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Doug Ose (CA-03), Chairman

PRESS RELEASE

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**OSE CALLS FOR INCREASE IN LIQUIFIED
NATURAL GAS IN THE U.S.**

Calls Natural Gas the Fuel of Choice for Electric Power Generation

WASHINGTON D.C. - Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs Chairman Doug Ose (R-Sacramento) yesterday held a hearing on siting of liquefied natural gas (LNG) on-shore and off-shore facilities. The hearing focused on the Federal and State regulatory framework and its record in furthering policy goals related to LNG, such as competitive pricing, regional supply, and environmental integrity.

“I’ve spent the last 3 ½ years working on things that affect people’s everyday lives. Natural gas is one of those things,” Ose said. “If we don’t solve the supply problem quickly, we will not be able to heat our homes or run our industries.”

Natural gas currently provides nearly one-quarter of U.S. energy requirements and the demand continues to grow. It provides about 19 percent of electric power generation nationally and is a clean fuel for heating and cooking in over 60 million U.S. households. U.S. industries obtain over 40 percent of their primary energy from natural gas. Natural gas provides environmental advantages and requires lower capital costs and shorter construction lead-time, than fossil fuels, such as oil and coal.

“The United States, especially California, is relying more and more on natural gas. It is the fuel of choice for electric power generation because it is reliable and much cleaner than other fossil fuels,” Ose said. “Natural gas is used by individual citizens, and by industry, agriculture and transportation as raw material. As a critical resource used throughout the economy, the effects of shortages in natural gas are more profound than those from most other commodities.”

“For the economy of California and the rest of the United States to flourish, there must be a plentiful, affordable energy supply. Without it, our economy will go into decline,” Ose

said. “The U.S. needs to address supply needs for natural gas through increases in both imports and domestic production.”

The Subcommittee heard testimony from Energy Acting Under Secretary David Garman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Chairman Patrick Wood, and Rear Admiral Thomas Gilmour, Assistant Commandant of Marine Safety, U.S. Coast Guard. Under Secretary Garman stressed how increasingly necessary LNG imports are to the U.S. Chairman Wood discussed FERC’s balancing national, regional, State and local concerns in siting on-shore LNG import facilities. Rear Admiral Gilmour described the Coast Guard’s safety, security, and siting considerations for LNG import terminals. Gilmour testified that vessels importing LNG undergo a frequent and rigorous examination process, more so than conventional crude oil or product tankers and are also subject to additional security measures.