Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

December 3, 2021

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm  
Secretary  
Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave. SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

The Honorable Gina Raimondo  
Secretary  
Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Secretary Granholm and Secretary Raimondo:

We are extremely concerned about the comments1 Secretary Granholm made regarding the possibility of reinstating a ban on exporting American crude oil. Domestic oil and gas producers are already feeling the burden of the Biden Administration’s reckless energy policies, such as cancelling the Keystone Pipeline and pausing leasing on federal lands, which further harms the industry and American consumers. The decision to reinstate an export moratorium would cripple the growth of this critical industry, as it continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and do nothing to alleviate the pain American consumers are feeling as a result of this administration’s failed energy policies.

Congress repealed the export ban in 2015 to allow U.S. companies to compete in the international marketplace. This led to a surge in production, buoyed by these new markets and advancements in drilling technology, where exports increased by over 500% from 2015-20192. More jobs were created in the oil, shipping, and refining industries, and our country was more secure knowing that our allies would not be forced to deal with hostile actors in order to satisfy their energy needs. Most importantly, the United States became energy independent and a net exporter of petroleum products — a once inconceivable accomplishment that bolsters U.S. national security. Reimposing an export ban would make us less competitive on the world stage and shift good paying, blue collar jobs overseas. Therefore, we request answers to the following questions:

1. What would be the impact on the U.S. economy in terms of lost GDP, and lost jobs should this moratorium be reinstated?
2. What will the aggregate effect of decreased U.S. oil exports have on net global carbon emissions?

3. Are U.S. refiners currently able to feasibly process U.S. produced crude oil that would no longer be exported?

4. Have you consulted with the National Security Council to determine the national security implications of being more dependent on OPEC+ countries?

We must allow American companies to compete with every other major oil producing country. When businesses are allowed to compete, consumers are ultimately rewarded with lower prices and superior products. Instead of punishing American companies with misguided policies, we urge you to shift your attention on the issues facing everyday Americans who are paying more to fuel their cars and heat their homes.

In God We Trust,

Roger Williams  August Pfluger
Member of Congress  Member of Congress

Kevin Brady  Jodey C. Arrington
Member of Congress  Member of Congress

Richard Hudson  Stephanie Bice
Member of Congress  Member of Congress

Dan Newhouse  Jake LaTurner
Member of Congress  Member of Congress
Michael Guest
Member of Congress

Gary Palmer
Member of Congress

Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress

David G. Valadao
Member of Congress

Chip Roy
Member of Congress

David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress

Bob Good
Member of Congress

Beth Van Duyne
Member of Congress

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

Eric A. “Rick” Crawford
Member of Congress
Ben Cline
Member of Congress

Tracey Mann
Member of Congress

Kay Granger
Member of Congress

Madison Cawthorn
Member of Congress

Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress

Tony Gonzales
Member of Congress

Ted Budd
Member of Congress

Blake Moore
Member of Congress

Tom McClintock
Member of Congress

Yvette Herrell
Member of Congress

Mike Bost
Member of Congress

Barry Loudermilk
Member of Congress
Randy K. Weber  
Member of Congress

Troy Balderson  
Member of Congress

Greg Pence  
Member of Congress

Ken Calvert  
Member of Congress

Brian Babin, D.D.S.  
Member of Congress

Kevin Hern  
Member of Congress

Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress

Jim Baird  
Member of Congress

Jay Obernolte  
Member of Congress
Byron Donalds
Member of Congress

Steve Chabot
Member of Congress

Dan Crenshaw
Member of Congress

John Joyce, M.D.
Member of Congress

Elise Stefanik
Member of Congress

Burgess Owens
Member of Congress

Matthew Rosendale, Sr.
Member of Congress

Tom Emmer
Member of Congress

Cliff Bentz
Member of Congress

Julia Letlow
Member of Congress