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## United States Senate

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January 27, 2016

Chairman Norman C. Bay  
Commissioner Cheryl A. LaFleur  
Commissioner Tony Clark  
Commissioner Colette D. Honorable

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

**RE: Request for Expeditious Processing of the Magnolia LNG Project Application  
FERC Docket No. CP14-347-000**

Dear Chairman Bay, Commissioners LaFleur, Clark, and Honorable,

I write to provide my strong support for Magnolia LNG LLC's ("Magnolia LNG") application under Section 3 of the Natural Gas Act pending before the Commission. This project will not only increase the economic livelihood of my constituents in Southwest Louisiana but will support our nation's important progress toward energy security.

I recognize the importance of a thorough process in handling applications for projects such as Magnolia LNG's; however, it has come to my attention that FERC's timeline for issuance of LNG terminal authorizations has only increased in the last two years. Specifically, the period between the issuance of a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and issuance of FERC's order on the application for LNG export projects has lengthened from 44 days for a FERC order issued in the summer of 2014 to 125 days for a FERC order issued in December 2015. This troubling trend suggests that although Magnolia LNG received its FEIS more than 75 days ago, and the Commission now has all the information it needs to render a decision, the company may need to wait another two months for FERC to decide on the application. Given the robust analysis performed by FERC staff and other reviewing agencies to date, as well as the broad public support for the project, this delay appears unwarranted.

I believe any additional delay will only deprive Southwest Louisiana from reaping full economic benefits of this project. The ability to move forward with this project swiftly will ensure the United States is able to support its allies around the world by providing secure energy supplies to compete with less stable natural gas suppliers. For these reasons, I request that FERC issue its decision regarding Magnolia LNG's pending application no later than its scheduled meeting on February 18, 2016.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your hard work to support the development of safe and efficient energy infrastructure in the United States.

Sincerely,

*Bill Cassidy, M.D.*

Bill Cassidy, MD  
U.S. Senator