

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR PROCLAMATION NUMBER 68 JML 2024

## NATURAL GAS IS AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, AND CLEAN ENERGY

WHEREAS, Louisiana recognizes the benefits of natural gas to both the state and national economies and environment; and Louisiana recognizes natural gas as an affordable, reliable, and clean energy resource;

WHEREAS, a balanced energy generation mix is paramount to ensuring energy remains affordable and reliable to consumers;

WHEREAS, natural gas serves as an affordable, reliable source of electricity and fuel for transportation and for residential, commercial, and industrial purposes. And according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, natural gas is the second largest source of energy in the United States;

WHEREAS, the International Energy Agency predicts global demand for natural gas will increase by 41% by 2050, and an additional 240 billion cubic meters per year of liquefied natural gas export capacity is needed by 2050;

WHEREAS, liquefied natural gas exports are a powerful geopolitical tool for protecting freedom, democracy, and prosperity for our allies abroad;

WHEREAS, Louisiana, with her natural resources and experienced workforce, is uniquely situated and continues to lead our Nation as the global energy supplier;

WHEREAS, Louisiana is the ninth largest producer of crude oil and third largest producer of natural gas, and our State supplies 63% of liquefied natural gas exported around the world;

WHEREAS, the United States supplies more liquefied natural gas to Europe than any other country;

WHEREAS, increased usage of natural gas domestically will not only reduce American dependence on foreign energy but also strengthen our national security;

WHEREAS, since 2005, two-thirds of the power sector greenhouse gas emissions reductions are a direct result of the switch to natural gas;

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, using natural gas to generate energy results in fewer emissions of nearly all types of air pollutants, including carbon dioxide, compared to other fossil fuels;

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, combined emissions of criteria and precursor pollutants have dropped by 78% in the United States since 1970;

WHEREAS, regional and state reliability authorities continue to warn of an increasing reliability risk of our electric grid, increasing the likelihood of blackouts which are a risk to public health, especially in times of extreme weather conditions;

WHEREAS, 25 state legislatures across the United States, including the Louisiana Legislature, have acted to protect consumer choice of energy and prohibit bans on natural gas;

WHEREAS, other states, such as California, New York, and Massachusetts, continue to impose restrictions on available energy resources, like natural gas, and energy delivery systems, like pipelines, resulting in significantly increased energy costs and reduced energy reliability for families and business located in those states;

WHEREAS, Louisiana, because it allows energy choice for families and business, will continue to have more favorable energy costs and greater energy reliability, making Louisiana an increasingly attractive location for businesses seeking to relocate;

WHEREAS, the Biden Administration has overstepped and abused its authority by implementing new, punitive regulations on natural gas power plants and energy production;

WHEREAS, this war on affordable, reliable, and clean energy stands to not only devastate Louisiana consumers, especially those on fixed incomes, but also hamstring economic growth in our State;

WHEREAS, 27 states have filed suit against the Biden Administration to halt the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposed greenhouse gas emissions regulation;

WHEREAS, 23 states have filed suit against the Biden Administration to halt the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's updated Mercury and Air Toxics Standards;

WHEREAS, the Biden Administration's illegal power plant rules have put the future reliability of our state and national electricity grid in peril, risking the health, prosperity, and wellbeing of the families of Louisiana, and will lead to a drastic increase in consumer costs of electricity; WHEREAS, Joe Biden recently announced a ban on the approval process of liquefied natural gas export permits to countries that do not have a free trade agreement with the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature recently passed SCR 36 to urge Congress to act to reverse this ban on liquefied natural gas exports;

NOW THEREFORE, I, JEFF LANDRY, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and proclaim as follows:

<u>Section 1</u>: Louisiana recognizes natural gas produced in the United States as an affordable, reliable, and clean energy;

<u>Section 2</u>: Louisiana recognizes that the United States should be committed to an "all of the above" energy strategy to meet our energy needs and that natural gas is necessary to be energy independent;

<u>Section 3</u>: Louisiana encourages the Biden Administration, including the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of the Interior, to support American production of natural gas and approval of natural gas infrastructure and to identify and remove barriers to the production of natural gas;

<u>Section 4</u>: Louisiana implores the Biden Administration to withdraw unlawful and senseless rules and regulations not authorized by Congress that will skyrocket energy costs for Louisiana consumers; and

Section 5: Louisiana opposes efforts to limit, delay, or ban the approval of new and existing liquefied natural gas export facilities in Louisiana and across our Nation.



ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024.

**DOR OF LOUISIANA**