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## **DOE Report Finds LNG Development Imposes “Triple-Cost Increase” on Americans**

**JOHNSTOWN, Pa.** – The Ohio River Valley Institute issued the following statement in response to the release of the [US Department of Energy](#) report on the harm of liquified natural gas (LNG) exports:

*This study has confirmed what opponents of natural gas expansion in Appalachia have long argued: increased LNG exports to global markets will raise prices for natural gas, electricity, and other products for Americans.*

*According to the report, “DOE analysis exposes a triple-cost increase to U.S. consumers from increasing LNG exports – the increasing domestic price of the natural gas itself, increases in electricity prices (natural gas being a key input in many U.S. power markets), and the increased costs for consumers from the pass-through of higher costs to U.S. manufacturers.”*

*The report also finds that increased LNG production and exports will significantly increase greenhouse gas emissions, worsening the impacts of global warming and making it harder to mitigate those impacts.*

*The reality is that expanded natural gas production benefits few industry shareholders and suppliers, and comes at the expense of average Americans. Despite [misleading claims](#) about “energy independence” and “energy dominance,” regions such as Appalachia bear the burdens of economic displacement, job and population loss, and health and environmental damages inflicted by the gas industry.*

*[Analyses by the Ohio River Valley Institute](#) and other organizations have repeatedly shown that the immense growth in Appalachian natural gas production, which began in 2008, has yielded no measurable economic benefit for the communities in Appalachia from which the gas comes. Incomes have failed to keep up with the rest of the nation and jobs and populations have gone into absolute decline.*

*Today, there are 10,000 fewer jobs and nearly 50,000 fewer residents in the 22 counties in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia that produce more than 90% of Appalachian natural gas. Meanwhile, the damage to the health of people in the region and their quality of life continues to decline as fracking wells and infrastructure proliferate.*

*The DOE report demonstrates the clear economic and environmental harm of increased LNG exports. It's time that policymakers in Appalachia wake up to this reality and start demanding a better deal for their suffering constituents.*

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