

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SUPERVISORS

Phillip Peters District 1
Chris Parlier..... District 2
Jeff Flores..... District 3
David Couch District 4
Leticia Perez District 5



NANCY ANDERSON
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Kern County Administrative Center
1115 Truxtun Avenue, 5th Floor
Bakersfield, California 93301
Telephone (661) 868-3585
TTY Relay 800-735-2929

December 10, 2025

The Honorable August Pfluger
United States House of Representatives
2202 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

**RE: H.R. 1949, Unlocking our Domestic Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Potential Act -
SUPPORT**

Dear Congressman Pfluger,

On behalf of the Kern County Board of Supervisors, we write to express our strong support for H.R. 1949, the Unlocking our Domestic LNG Potential Act of 2025. This legislation takes a critical step toward modernizing federal energy policy by repealing outdated restrictions on the export and import of natural gas and empowering the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) with exclusive authority over LNG terminal approvals.

As outlined in our recent letter to President Donald J. Trump, Kern County called for urgent federal action to address California's deteriorating energy production, refining capacity, and fuel infrastructure. That correspondence emphasized the strategic risks to U.S. military readiness, proposed the designation of Kern County as a National Resource Development Zone, and urged the invocation of the Defense Production Act to prioritize domestic fuel and energy supply for national defense. These priorities are directly aligned with the objectives of H.R. 1949.

Kern County produces over 70% of California's in-state oil supply each year (#1 producer in the state) and roughly 1.3 billion cubic feet annually of natural gas (#3 producer in the state), serving as a cornerstone of the state's energy production and infrastructure. Our region supports key military installations such as Edwards Air Force Base and Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, and plays a vital role in ensuring fuel reliability across the western United States. Yet, our ability to meet national energy needs is increasingly constrained by regulatory bottlenecks and policy uncertainty.

H.R. 1949 seeks to address these challenges by:

- Removing federal barriers to natural gas trade, thereby enhancing energy flexibility and market access;
- Affirming that LNG exports and imports are in the public interest, which supports national energy security and economic competitiveness;

- Preserving executive authority to restrict trade with sanctioned entities, ensuring alignment with national security priorities.

By streamlining federal oversight and enabling responsible expansion of LNG infrastructure, this legislation complements Kern County's recent efforts to secure federal recognition and support for domestic energy production. It also reinforces the strategic importance of regions like ours in meeting the nation's defense and energy resilience goals.

We urge Congress to advance H.R. 1949 without delay and ensure that the United States can fully unlock its domestic LNG potential. Kern County stands ready to contribute to this national effort and partner with federal agencies to strengthen our energy future.

Thank you for your leadership on this vital issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'LP' or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

Leticia Perez, Chair
Kern County Board of Supervisors

cc: Honorable Members, Kern County Congressional Delegation
Honorable Members, Kern County Legislative Delegation
U.S. Department of Energy
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Townsend Public Affairs
Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange