Bill Dombrowski, President, California Retailers Association
Comments before the California Resources Agency
Workshop on LNG Access Issues and Deliverability of Supply
Secretary of State Office Auditorium
1500 11th Street, First Floor, Sacramento
June 2, 2005
Re: Docket No. 05-LNG-1

I think you could ask any businessperson in California to identify the most frustrating part of their budget and you would get the same response. It's the unpredictable that makes it scary to lay out a plan for the future of your enterprise, whatever it may be.

Energy costs are a large part of any store's budget and predicting where they will be in the future is only easy if your answer is "higher." This summer we are facing the potential of brownouts and blackouts. These events can destroy a day's income or more for any retailer.

The California Energy Commission has reported that we face a shortage of natural gas supplies that will force the cost of that important fuel up but would also drive up electricity costs because we are dependent on natural gas in our new power plants.

LNG is an abundant supply of this clean fuel for our state. Without it, projections show our energy costs sky rocketing which will hit every California retailer right where it hurts.

We implore you to provide the state with LNG. It is a ready supply of what we need.

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05-LNG-1
DATE JUN 02 2005
RECD. JUN 03 2005