Chart of the Week #2025-21

LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) Trade Lowers U.S. Trade Deficit - Revisited

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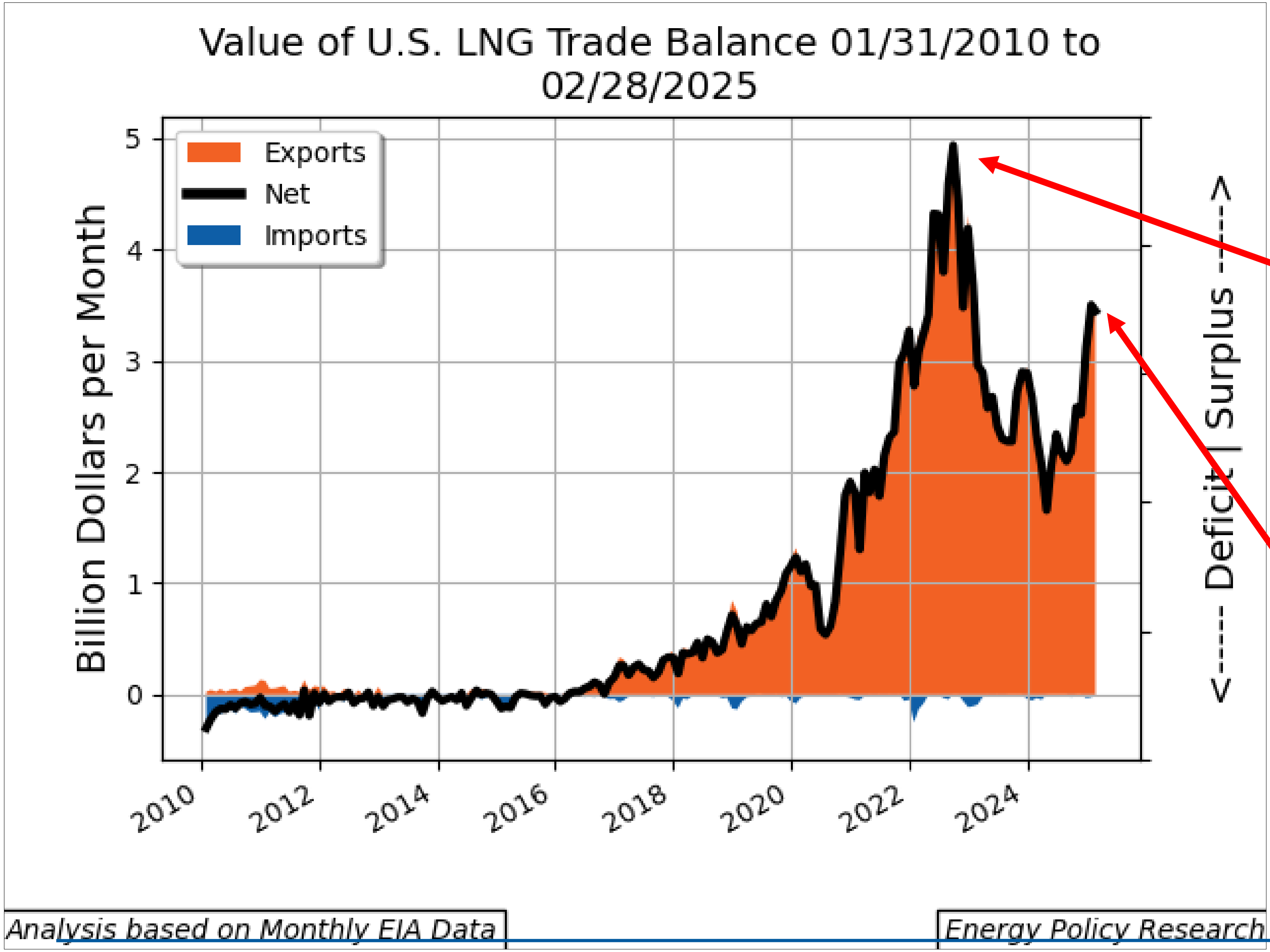
LNG Trade Lowers U.S. Trade Deficit



At this peak, the August 2022 trade deficit was $67B ($261B exports, $328B imports). The value of U.S. LNG exports in that month was $4.95B.

Without LNG trade, the August 2022 deficit would have been $72B, or 7.5% higher.

January and February 2025 saw a secondary peak in the value of U.S. LNG Net Exports reaching $3.5B each month.

LNG Trade Lowers U.S. Trade Deficit

Energy Policy Research Foundation

- **With the record amounts of natural gas production surplus achieved in the 2000s due to improvements in hydrofracturing and lateral drilling technologies, the U.S. began development of U.S. LNG (liquefied natural gas) facilities at large scale in the Gulf Coast.**
- **In 2016, the first LNG cargos were shipped and growth in U.S.LNG exports has been considerable.**
- **This has made material contributions to narrowing the U.S. trade deficit. According to the EIA, natural gas trade accounted for 5% of U.S. energy import value and 22% of energy export value in 2020; this resulted in an annual surplus of $26 billion.**
- **In August 2022, the monthly U.S. LNG trade surplus peaked at $4.95B. That month the trade deficit was $67B ($261B exports, $328B imports). Without LNG trade, the August 2022 deficit would have been $72B, or 7.5% higher.**
- **More recently, January and February 2025 saw a secondary peak in the value of U.S. LNG Net Exports reaching $3.5B each month.**
- **This slide deck is available at: https://eprinc.org/chart-of-the-week/**
- **For more information on this chart, please contact Max Pyziur (maxp@eprinc.org).**