

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LNGStudy](#); [FERGAS](#)
Subject: Department of Energy DOE - Liquefied Natural Gas Export Terminal Permit Request
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As a private citizen, I am deeply concerned about the explosion of extracting natural gas through the method known as hydraulic fracturing, commonly referred to as fracking. Hundreds of chemicals are mixed in with sand and tons of water taken from our rivers and forced into shale to break it up releasing the gas for removal. Fracking is done in areas near farms, schools, and homes and has directly impacted the lives of people living near these fracking areas. Water to homes has been contaminated by the practice and people near fracking areas are getting sick. Cows in pastures near fracking sites have died due to drinking contaminated water. Other adversities have been encountered. It is widely known about these cases yet no one really seems to care in state or federal government.

Now, the Department has permits to export liquefied natural gas (LNG) from 19 terminals here in the US that are currently for import only. DOE consultants recently completed a study in regards to this matter. First of all, the consultants have ties to the gas industry making these study biased. The consultants focused on short-term positive economic benefits to the U.S. economy, the U.S. trade balance, the industry and the natural gas leaseholders, if the export permits were to be approved. They left out the economic cost of all cumulative damages to air, water, public health, farms, forests, communities and climate. They left out all the impacts to the environment including impact on rivers and their tributaries, ground and well water, and loss of vital animal habitat. They left out the health and safety impacts upon people and animals, including the unhealthiness of the air surrounding fracking areas and the pollution from the hundreds of trucks used to bring fracking fluids in and out. There have been blowouts at fracking sites impacting upon air quality and across land into rivers and streams nearby. Where the people living near these areas who have suffered numerous problems, including health issues, ever included and consulted in this study? The pipelines that were built to take the gas from the current IMPORT terminals to the end users in the U.S. were built where ever the gas companies wanted them irrespective of property rights - with the use of eminent domain. Eminent domain is only granted for the purpose of the public good - not for the financial benefit of private industry. Therefore, it should be illegal to use those pipelines to transmit gas from the fields to the terminal for EXPORT - which benefits only the industry. Liquefying, transporting, regassifying and then transporting gas to users in other countries makes no sense whatsoever when we should be moving away from climate changing methods to more sustainable, green forms of energy. Exporting LNG uses even more energy, not less. There is no rhyme and reason to this except for the natural gas industry who will reap the economic benefits. The negative long-term economic effects of a boom - bust cycle on communities by extractive industries is well documented throughout history. Ultimately the community ends up less healthy and wealthy after the resource is depleted and the industry leaves. There has actually been little impact on job creation in communities where there is fracking. The industry has been bringing in largely their own people.

The negative impacts on other industries such as agriculture, tourism, outdoor recreation, etc. also must be taken into consideration in an economic analysis.

I only just skimmed the surface of the negative impacts of LNG exportation. There are many more and I could have gone into much more detail as to why I strongly reject fracking and subsequent LNG exportation of fracked gas. These LNG exportation permits should be denied. They benefit no one really, except for the gas industry. As NASA Climate Scientist James Hansen has said, if we have any chance of avoiding the civilization threatening effects of climate change that are heading our way, the fossil fuels that are still in the ground must stay there. We should be encouraging the development of renewable energy, not the use of every last drop of fossil fuel. Thank for considering my comments.

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