



Press Statement  
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## **President Biden Temporary Halt on Dept. of Energy Approvals for Liquefied Natural Gas Exports a Win for the Climate and Activism!**

Today action was taken by the Biden Administration that recognizes the enormity of the climate crisis. The White House announced that new permitting for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) export projects by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) will be stopped while the climate impacts of these projects are assessed by the agency.

President Biden's announcement placed a hold on "...pending decisions on exports of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to non-FTA countries until the Department of Energy can update the underlying analyses for authorizations." (see: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/01/26/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-temporary-pause-on-pending-approvals-of-liquefied-natural-gas-exports/>)

The statement went on to quote President Biden: "During this period, we will take a hard look at the impacts of LNG exports on energy costs, America's energy security, and our environment. This pause on new LNG approvals sees the climate crisis for what it is: the existential threat of our time." (see: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/01/26/statement-from-president-joe-biden-on-decision-to-pause-pending-approvals-of-liquefied-natural-gas-exports/> )

"This monumental victory for frontline fighters and national climate activism to stop the disastrous build out of exports of LNG shows that people and focused campaigns can change what seems sometimes like an unstoppable trajectory. The federal approvals for LNG exports have been on automatic for years, with the DOE rubber-stamping every LNG export license it saw in spite of the costs and risks. This is a temporary victory but we are closer today to reducing greenhouse gas emissions caused by fracking, LNG processing and use than yesterday. We are closer to providing secure, truly clean, and renewable energy sources instead, as we all continue to work to

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achieve that during this pause. And public activism brought our nation to this moment in time; thank you to all who have fought to save the planet from climate disaster!” **said Tracy Carluccio, Deputy Director, Delaware Riverkeeper Network.**

The LNG export approval pause is expected to immediately affect the proposed Penn America LNG Export Terminal that the company has planned for Chester, PA on the Delaware River. Without DOE authorization, they cannot export to non-FTA countries; the company had not yet received any federal approvals. Regarding the proposed Gibbstown LNG Export Terminal in Greenwich Township, NJ, the authorization to export to FTA nations has already been issued but there has been no associated request to export to non-FTA nations, to which the White House action announced today would apply. There are loopholes in the federal action that was announced today; Delaware Riverkeeper Network is analyzing the implications for LNG exports from these facilities as part of the organization’s commitment to prevent any and all LNG export facilities at the Delaware River Ports for the protection of the Delaware River Watershed and its communities and ecosystems.

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