

Philadelphia Stop LNG Network

April 4, 2022

Members of the Pennsylvania Legislature

Re: **Opposition letter to HB 2458**

The Philadelphia Stop LNG Network opposes **HB 2458**, the Philadelphia LNG Export Task Force Act. We represent communities in Philadelphia and the Greater Philadelphia Region who oppose the transport and export of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG).

LNG facilities are, according to the federal government's guidance, supposed to be located in "remote" locations due to the dangers associated with LNG's unique properties that can cause catastrophic loss of life and infrastructure damage should there be a release of LNG. The basic principle of protecting the public's safety and public assets eliminates the heavily populated Philadelphia location. Much of Philadelphia is already burdened with environmental injustices that are disproportionately harming people of color and low-income populations. To layer on the threat of more impacts is not only wrong, it is immoral.

The transport, handling, transloading, liquefaction, processing and storage of LNG poses grave dangers for communities where these activities occur. LNG is a liquefied cryogenic flammable gas, cooled to at least -260 degrees F. It is dangerous to handle and store, bringing with it "unique safety hazards". If LNG is released to the atmosphere it creates an extremely cold vapor cloud that can asphyxiate those nearby and cause severe freeze burns, even death. Spills that catch fire burn so hot the fire cannot be extinguished, causing second-degree burns within 30 seconds for those exposed within a mile. The flammable vapor cloud expands 620 times larger than the storage container, can cause a catastrophic Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion and packs the force of a thermobaric bomb. These risks are completely unacceptable for our region.

We oppose the concept of developing a port to export Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from Philadelphia for environmental, public health, and climate reasons. The Commonwealth needs to invest in projects that promote renewable and truly clean energy sources, not try to prop up outdated fossil fuels that harm public health and the environment, feed the climate crisis, and have no viable future as economically sustainable or beneficial energy sources.

Natural gas development is being replaced by jobs and investments in truly clean, renewable and innovative technology that does not contribute greenhouse gases to the atmosphere and does not have the heavy environmental and public health burden that fracking, LNG, and its infrastructure entail. Green jobs also offer family-supporting wages and safe working conditions with a bright future as the renewable industry replaces dirty fossil fuels.

The Philadelphia Stop LNG Network urges you to vote NO on HB 2458.

Thank you for your consideration,

The Philadelphia Stop LNG Network, which includes Philly Boricuas, Make the Road Philadelphia, 350Philly, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Berks Gas Truth, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, and other organizations working in the Philadelphia Region to stop the LNG transport and exports.