September 8, 2020

Commissioners Delaware River Basin Commission 25 Cosey Road P.O. Box 7360 West Trenton, NJ 08628

## Re: DOCKET NO. D-2017-009-2, DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION, Delaware River Partners LLC, Gibbstown Logistics Center, Dock 2, Greenwich Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey – Updated and Resubmitted

Dear Governor Murphy, Governor Cuomo, Governor Carney and Governor Wolf,

We, the undersigned 133 organizations, represent hundreds of thousands of members committed to defending our communities and the Delaware River Watershed from degradation and pollution. New Fortress Energy/Delaware River Partners' proposed export terminal on the Delaware River at Gibbstown, New Jersey, is being reconsidered by you, as the voting members of the DRBC, with a final vote in the coming weeks on the fate of the proposal. We collectively urge you to vote not to allow the Gibbstown Logistics Center to be expanded with a second dock (Dock 2) that will include the export of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and potentially triple activity at the terminal, substantially increasing the project's damaging footprint and harmful environmental impacts.

We submit that, based on review of the materials submitted to the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) by the applicant, this project will have substantial negative impacts on the Delaware River, its water quality, its habitats, and the species that live in and depend on the River, Estuary and Bay. Endangered species such as Atlantic sturgeon and shortnose sturgeon, wildlife and special aquatic life are threatened by the terminal wharf and dredging. One of the last natural areas of this part of the river will lose its most valuable attributes. It will also threaten the health and safety of communities in the region, including adjacent Gibbstown and Greenwich Township, as well as the Pennsylvania communities of Tinicum Township and the environmental justice communities of Chester, which have had no say in project permitting.

We submit that the initial decision made by DRBC to approve the project did not adhere to the agency's own regulations and mandated responsibilities. The Dock 2 expansion is substantially lacking in critical information about the export of LNG and related operations at the site; the assessment of risks associated with perpetual, round-the -clock LNG and natural gas liquids (NGLs) handling and direct transloading onto ships at this site; and how prevention of toxic contamination will be accomplished. How the development of Dock 2 will affect the highly contaminated site that was owned by DuPont as an explosives manufacturing plant for over 100 years is a glaring unknown that has not been independently assessed by DRBC. With the recent disclosure of water pollution problems at the site, technical evidence forewarns us that

current site pollution may get worse due to project disturbances there because this site is still undergoing cleanup of extensive contamination.

This Docket is also lacking in holistic analysis; for the risks to be properly assessed there must be a comprehensive examination of the impacts from beginning to end. So far, there has been no analysis of the dangers for the communities in Delaware and New Jersey. The coastal communities that line the Delaware estuary and bay depend economically on fishing, harvesting seafood and tourism. Will residents feel safe or tourists want to watch birds next to huge shipping vessels exporting hazardous and potentially explosive LNG and NGLs overseas? Also not considered by DRBC were the unprecedented implications for public safety and health in the region and the risks imposed on NJ and PA communities along the 200+-mile transportation route that LNG-carrying trucks and rail cars would traverse. The impacts of the industrialization of rural Wyalusing Township, Bradford County on the Susquehanna River in North Central Pennsylvania where New Fortress's LNG processing plant is being built must also be considered, as should the fracking that will be induced to supply the plant. Since the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Pipeline Hazardous Material and Safety Administration have abdicated responsibility to oversee this project, there is no agency experienced in these highly risky cargoes that will be regulating operational protocols. Our organizations are calling on you to right the wrongs that the DRBC's rushed decision in 2019 has caused and stop this proposal so a comprehensive analysis can be done, before danger turns to catastrophe.

Additionally, it is critical that DRBC consider the impacts of the Gibbstown project on climate change. We are opposed to the development and continued reliance on fracked gas to meet energy needs. We support the replacement of fracking with truly clean, renewable energy sources that will benefit public health, our environment, and our economy and will battle climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions. DRBC has this year recognized the negative effects of climate change on water quality and healthy habitats in the Delaware River Basin. Extracting, transloading and transporting this gas will result in emissions of methane and burning it will add to carbon dioxide levels. Methane is the most powerful of greenhouse gases over a 20-year period – 86 times more efficient at trapping heat than carbon. It is essential we do what we can here to prevent these emissions so that we are part of the solution to the climate crisis and not part of the problem.

In closing, we the undersigned diverse and geographically distributed organizations rely on you, the Commissioners of the DRBC, to make decisions regarding our watershed and water resources that are formed by comprehensive, scientifically based and technically sound information, seen through the perspective of the entire Delaware River Basin. We submit that this requires a vote against the expansion of the Gibbstown Logistics Center and the proposed Dock 2 LNG and NGL export terminal. We respectfully request you reject Hearing Officer Kelly's recommendation and vote NO on the approval of Dock 2.

Submitted by: 198 methods 2002 350 NJ-Rockland 350 Philadelphia 350 Pittsburgh A SMART Collaboration LLC Already Devalued and Devastated Homeowners of Parsippany Baltimore, MD Phil Berrigan Memorial Chapter Veterans For Peace Berks Gas Truth Better Path Coalition **Beyond Extreme Energy BlueWaveNJ** Breathe Easy Susquehanna County Bucks County Concerned Citizens Against the Pipelines **Bucks Environmental Action** CAPP CAPP NY Center for Coalfield Justice Central Jersey Coalition Against Endless War Central Jersey Environmental Defenders **Citizens For Water** Citizens United for Renewable Energy (CURE) Clean Air Council Clean Ocean Action **Clean Water Action New Jersey Climate Justice** ClimateMama **CNY Solidarity Coalition Climate Justice Committee** Coalition Against the Pilgrim Pipeline - NJ Coalition Against the Pilgrim Pipeline - NJ Coalition to Ban Unsafe Oil Trains Coalition to Protect New York **Compressor Free Franklin** Concerned Citizens of Lebanon County Concerned Citizens of Rural Broome County **Cooper River Indivisible** CPYN Damascus Citizens For Sustainability **Delaware Riverkeeper Network Delaware Sierra Club** Delawareans for Environmental Safety Don't Gas the Meadowlands Coalition

Don't Gas the Pinelands **EcoJustice Working Group Thomas Merton Center** Eco-Poetry.org **Edgmont Community Safety Coalition** Elmirans and Friends Against Fracking **EMPOWER NJ Environment New Jersey Environmental Health Project** Food & Water Action Frack Action FracTracker Alliance Franciscan Response to Fossil Fuels Friends of the Earth Gas Free Seneca Green America **Green Justice Philly** Green Party of NJ Haiti Solidarity Network NE Indivisible Lambertville/New Hope Indivisible NJ 5 JFK DEMOCRATIC CLUB FRANKLIN - SOMERSET COUNTY L&R Lancaster Against Pipelines League of Women Voters of Delaware Lebanon Pipeline Awareness Love Leitrim - Ireland Main Line Interfaith Green Group Marcellus Outreach Butler Marcellus Protest Mark Ruffalo, board member of Catskill Mountainkeeper mothers for environment MoveOn.org Hoboken RESIST Natural Resources Defense Council - NY New Jersey March for Science **New Jersey PACE** New Jersey Sierra Club New Jersey Sierra Club New Jersey Student Sustainability Coalition New Jersey Tenants Organization New Paltz Climate Action Coalition New York Communities for Change (NYCC) NJ Campaign Against Fossil Fuel Expansion NJ Forest Watch NJ Sierra Club, Hudson County Group

NJ Skylands Sunrise Hub NJ State Industrial Union Council NJ Student Sustainability Coalition NJ Sustainability Coalition North Jersey Sierra Group Northern NJ NOW Not Here Not Anywhere - Ireland NYC Grassroots Alliance NYH20 **Orange Residents Against Pilgrim Pipelines** Our Revolution Ocean County PA Senator Katie Muth Partnership for sustainability PennEnvironment PennFuture People Demanding Action NJ People for a Healthy Environment **People Over Pipelines** Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania **Pinelands Preservation Alliance Possible Planet** Preserve Giles County **PROJECT COFFEEHOUSE** Protect Northern PA Protect PT (Penn -Trafford) Ramapough Mountain Indians **Raritan Headwaters** Responsible Drilling Alliance (RDA) **RHS Environmental Club** Safety Before LNG - Ireland Save RGV (formerly SAVE RGV from LNG) Save the Pine Bush Schuylkill Pipeline Awareness Seneca Lake Guardian ShaleshockCNY Sierra Club Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter Sierra Club Southeastern Group SOMA Action Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion (SAPE) Sullivan Alliance for Sustainable Development Surfrider Foundation South Jersey Chapter Sustainable South Jersey **UU** Faith Action

Veterans Service Corps VSCamerica.org Westfield 20/20 Westmoreland Marcellus Citizens' Group