

To: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), RI Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), RI Coastal Resources Management Council (RICRMC), Governor Gina Raimondo, Senators Whitehouse and Reed, and Congressmen Langevin and Cicciline:

We, the undersigned organizations and individuals, oppose National Grid's proposal to build the Fields Point Liquefaction Facility in the Port of Providence. For the numerous reasons outlined below, we call upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the RI Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), and the RI Coastal Resources Management Council (RICRMC) to reject National Grid's applications. We also call upon our elected and appointed officials to support the residents of Rhode Island they are sworn to protect and serve, and join us in asking the federal and state regulatory bodies to reject National Grid's Fields Point Liquefaction Facility proposal. We insist that FERC, RIDEM, and RICRMC take the following issues into consideration in the review of National Grid's proposal, and reject the proposal based on this community opposition.

- It is a high-risk facility with numerous potential disasters including but not limited to earthquakes, hurricanes, storm surges, industrial accidents, fires, explosions, and chemical incidents.
- The proposed facility would be adjacent to numerous toxic industrial facilities, located in a densely populated community of color with many environmental justice concerns. According to the EPA, the neighboring community is ranked over the 95th percentile on numerous environmental justice indicators including: traffic proximity and volume; proximity to chemical facilities requiring a risk management plan; proximity to facilities storing and transferring toxic and hazardous waste; and proximity to major water discharge polluters.
- The proposed facility is next to to a chemical facility that has a 14-mile hazard radius.
- Rhode Island's only trauma and hospital complex including RI Hospital, Hasbro Children's Hospital, and Women and Infants is less than two miles away, within the potential evacuation zone of the proposed facility. Providence Community Health Center, Hasbro Medicine Pediatric Primary Care, and other medical facilities are even closer, which is unacceptable.
- The proposal will increase the price of gas by adding the \$180 million cost of the facility to customer's bills. It will not lead to more stable and predictable natural gas costs, as National Grid claims, because domestic natural gas prices have a history of extreme volatility.
- There is no need to increase the supply of LNG. The existing LNG storage tank serves RI's needs; there are three LNG import terminals already built near Boston. Our focus needs to be on energy conservation, weatherization, and reducing demand, not increasing our supply unnecessarily.
- The LNG produced at the facility would be from gas extracted by the controversial process of hydraulic fracturing, which has been banned in New York State due to public health risks. The dangerous chemicals used in the extraction process are contained in the produced gas and may be emitted during the LNG production process when "impurities" in the gas are removed.

- The Liquefaction Facility would be a massive waste of electricity, requiring 13 Megawatts which is half of all the electricity that will be produced by the Deepwater Wind project.
- National Grid's public participation plan is extremely flawed. They contacted certain officials, industrial neighbors, and a handful of homeowners but ignored the residents and tenants who will be negatively impacted by the project.
- National Grid's Fields Point Liquefaction Facility is unnecessary, costly, and risky. It's a bad idea for everyone in Rhode Island, but the negative effects will be felt more directly and severely by the poorer and non-white residents in Providence. The area where the project is planned is one of the state's most polluted. Building this plant will contribute to the pollution, not cut back. In a state where 67% of pre-K through 12th-grade students attend schools in high-risk zones that threaten chemical leaks, gas clouds and explosions, we need clean, renewable and non-polluting energy that is equitable for marginalized communities. We need investments in renewable energy, not dangerous fossil fuels, to be directed into low-income communities of color.

We are calling on FERC and our elected and appointed officials in Rhode Island to listen to this widespread community opposition to National Grid's proposal, and reject the application.

#### LOCAL / PROVIDENCE:

BASE: Burrillville Against Spectra Expansion  
 Bell Street Chapel, Governing Board  
 City of Providence, Office of Sustainability  
 Community Music Works  
 emPOWER (Brown University)  
 English for Action  
 Environmental Justice League of Rhode Island  
 The FANG Collective  
 Farmacy Herbs  
 George Wiley Center  
 Occupy Providence  
 Providence Student Union  
 PRYSM: Providence Youth Student Movement  
 Quisqueya Liquors  
 Renaissance Church  
 The White Noise Collective  
 The Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University  
 Mercy Ecology

#### STATEWIDE (RHODE ISLAND):

Clean Water Action (RI)  
 Fossil Free RI  
 Green Party of RI  
 Humanists of RI  
 PSA/NEARI Local 859 (Professional Staff Association, National Education Association - RI)  
 Rhode Island Progressive Democrats  
 RI Sierra Club  
 Climate Action RI/RI 350  
 Defenders of Animals, Inc.  
 Coyote RI

## REGIONAL AND NATIONAL:

American Friends Service Committee - South East New England  
Beyond Extreme Energy (National)  
Climate Action Now (MA)  
Climate Justice Alliance (National Coalition)  
Coalition for Responsible Siting of LNG Facilities (Fall River, MA)  
Food and Water Watch (National)  
Grassroots Global Justice (National Coalition)  
Hampshire College Climate Justice League (MA)  
No Sharon Gas Pipeline (MA)  
Popular Resistance (National)  
People, Not Pipelines (New England)  
Toxics Action Center (New England)

## ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor Jorge Elorza, City of Providence  
State Representative Edith Ajello, District 1  
State Representative Christopher Blazejewski, District 2  
State Representative Moira Walsh, District 3  
State Representative Aaron Regunberg, District 4  
State Representative Marcia Ranglin-Vassell, District 5  
State Representative John Lombardi, District 8  
State Representative Anastasia Williams, District 9  
State Representative Grace Diaz, District 11  
State Representative Joseph Almeida, District 12  
State Representative John Lombardi, District 13  
State Representative Susan Donovan, District 69  
State Senator Ana Quezada, District 2  
State Senator Gayle Goldin, District 3  
State Senator Paul Jabour, District 5  
State Senator Harold Metts, District 6  
State Senator Jeanine Calkin, District 30