

16 May 2023

Dear Deputy National Security Advisor Pyle:

On behalf of our millions of members and supporters, we write to you with deep concerns that the Japan-led G7 process could endorse the expansion of global Liquefied Fossil Gas (LNG) supplies. Because official support for new LNG infrastructure is incompatible with the Biden Administration's climate and environmental justice commitments, the United States should strenuously resist this outcome.

The G7 Climate and Environment Ministerial Communiqué in April stated that investment in the natural gas sector, including LNG, is only appropriate if "implemented in a manner consistent with our climate objectives and without creating lock-in effects." The G7 should clarify at its final meeting that new LNG export and import infrastructure fails this test.

As the [International Energy Agency](#) and others have made clear, there is no preventing a 1.5C world without preventing new oil and gas investments. Every LNG terminal that comes online risks locking-in decades of avoidable climate pollution and environmental injustice. While climate and environment ministers gestured towards "hydrogen-ready" LNG as a way to square new gas investments with climate targets, the economics, safety, and climate benefits of retrofitting LNG infrastructure for hydrogen remain [highly questionable](#).

With fossil fuel interests [unapologetically targeting](#) the G7, and Japan using its Presidency to seek support for new LNG, we call on the United States to prevent the gathering from endorsing dirty energy giveaways in the following areas:

- **Hydrogen-Readiness:** Vague promises of hydrogen readiness cannot become an excuse to expand fossil fuel infrastructure. Whether for liquid hydrogen or ammonia, the prospect of hydrogen retrofits for LNG terminals remains prohibitively expensive with major questions about both technical feasibility and climate benefits. This is a marketing campaign, not a technology; it cannot be allowed to justify the continued expansion of LNG.
- **Contracts:** New LNG projects require long-term contracts to secure commitments from lenders and other investors. The length of most contracts—generally at least 15 years—is a stark reminder that terminals breaking ground today will continue polluting long after meaningful climate thresholds have been crossed. The United States should oppose efforts in the G7 and other fora to expand LNG contracting, including through the creation of new market structures to aggregate demand.
- **Permitting Reform:** The permitting process for LNG in the United States already fails to consider climate, communities and consumers, serving as a rubber stamp for industry. The Biden Administration should vehemently resist any attempt to further expedite LNG permitting across G7 countries in ways that would further weaken community input and the assessment of climate and environmental justice impacts.

- **Public Finance:** Export Credit Agencies and other public financiers have played a disproportionate role in the LNG boom to date, with G20 countries providing [\\$78 billion](#) in credit and other investments for projects around the globe. The US EX-IM Bank alone is responsible for almost \$5 billion with the potential for billions more under its new facility for financing domestic projects. The United States should rapidly implement the Glasgow Statement to phase out its own financing of fossil fuels, including LNG, and call on Japan to join the rest of the G7 as a signatory.
- **“Clean” LNG Certification:** Recent announcements indicate that the DOE and representatives from other G7 countries are working with fossil fuel interests to develop an international certification framework for the carbon intensity of LNG. While there is an urgent need for strong and well-enforced methane regulations, this type of certification scheme risks simply helping LNG companies sell more of their product and secure more contracts for new facilities. It is extremely difficult to accurately measure the methane leakage and carbon intensity of the LNG supply chain, and we are skeptical that this type of certification would be meaningful or rigorous; more likely, it will amount to little more than greenwashing that conceals the climate and environmental justice harms of LNG.

It would be a climate and environmental justice disaster if the coming G7 was hijacked to support LNG. We urge the Biden Administration to stand firm and lead the way for fossil-free diplomacy.

Sincerely,

CC:

Principal Deputy National Security Advisor Jon Finer

Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry

Senior Advisor John Podesta

Senior Director and Assistant to the President Sarah Ladislaw

Senior Advisor Amos Hochstein

Deputy Secretary Dave Turk, Department of Energy

Assistant Secretary Andrew Light, Department of Energy

Assistant Secretary Brad Crabtree, Department of Energy

A Community Voice

Action for the Climate Emergency

Africa Network for Environment & Economic Justice
Better Brazoria Clean Air & Water
Beyond Extreme Energy
Bronx Climate Justice North
Carrizo/Comecrudo Tribe of Texas
Cascadia Climate Action Now
Catskill Mountainkeeper
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for International Environmental Law
Center for Oil & Gas Organizing
Central Jersey Coalition Against Endless War
Chatham Research Group
Chesapeake Climate Action Network
Chispa Texas
Citizens Alliance for a Sustainable Englewood
Clean Energy Action
Climate Action Campaign of the Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Climate Equity Policy Center
Climate Hawks Vote
Climate Reality Project New Orleans
ClimateMama
Coalition Against Death Alley
Color Brighton Green
Common Defense
Concerned Citizens of St. John
Concerned Health Professionals of Pennsylvania
Deignan Institute for Earth & Spirit
Don't Waste Arizona
Down East Coal Ash Environmental & Social Justice Coalition
Earth Action, Inc.
Earth Uprising International
Earthworks

Eco-Conscience
ecoAmerica
Ecologistas en Acción
Edmund Rice International
Elders Climate Action
Empower Our Future
Energy & Environmental Initiative of the Colorado Democratic Party
Estes Valley Clean Energy Coalition
Extinction Rebellion San Francisco Bay Area
Extinction Rebellion US
Fenceline Watch
Food & Water Watch
For a Better Bayou
Fracking Free Clare
Friends of the Earth U.S.
Grassroots Global Justice Alliance
Greater New Orleans Interfaith Climate Coalition
Greenpeace USA
Hispanic Access Foundation
In the Shadow of the Wolf
Incendiary Literary
Inclusive Louisiana
Institute for Policy Studies Climate Policy Program
Kentucky interfaith Power
League of Conservation Voters
Mighty Earth
MoveOn.org Hoboken
Natural Capitalism Solutions
Natural Resources Defense Council
New Mexico Climate Justice
New York Progressive Action Network Greene
Nicaragua Center for Community Action

North American Climate, Conservation & Environment
North Bronx Racial Justice
North Quabbin Energy
Northern New Jersey Jewish Voice for Peace
Nuclear Information & Resource Service
Occupy Bergen County
Ocean Conservation Research
Oil & Gas Action Network
Oil Change International
Our Revolution Ocean County
Pacific Environment
Pass the Federal Green New Deal
Plastic Pollution Coalition
Port Arthur Community Action Network
Primavera Zur
Progressives for Climate
Public Citizen
Rachel Carson Council
Rainforest Action Network
Robeson County Cooperative for Sustainable Development
Save RGV
Seven Circles Foundation
Sierra Club
South Seattle Climate Action Network
St. Mark's United Methodist Church
Stand.earth
Stop The Oil Profiteering
Sunrise New Orleans
Louisiana League of Conscious Voters
Texas Campaign for the Environment
The Last Plastic Straw
The Quantum Institute

TIAA-Divest!

Toxic Free North Carolina

tUrn Climate Crisis Awareness & Action

Turtle Island Restoration Network

Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community

Unite North Metro Denver

Vote Climate

Waterspirit

Women's Environment & Development Organization

Wooley Energy & Environment

Zero Hour

Zilkha Center for Environmental Initiatives

1000 Grandmothers for Future Generations

198 methods

350 Colorado

350 Deschutes

350 New Orleans

350 Sacramento

350 Seattle

350 Triangle

350.org

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