

June 23, 2025

Dear President of the Commission Ursula Von der Leyen,  
Executive Vice-President Teresa Ribera,  
Commissioner Dan Jørgensen,  
Commissioner Wopke Hoekstra,  
and Commissioner Maroš Šefčovič,

We write on behalf of the undersigned 188 organisations from the United States with a warning for European policymakers: do not bow to President Trump's pressure and increase your reliance on Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) or other fossil fuel imports from the United States.

The European Commission's recent Affordable Energy Action Plan<sup>1</sup> and Roadmap Towards Ending Russian Energy Imports<sup>2</sup> propose actions to mitigate the current energy affordability crisis and set out plans to end Russian energy imports by the end of 2027. The spirit behind these plans is laudable. Urgent action is needed to mitigate fossil fuel-driven unaffordable energy bills and to end reliance on gas from hostile and unreliable states.

However, rather than first and primarily doubling down on renewables and energy efficiency to cut and ultimately fully phase out EU gas imports overall, both plans focus on replacing and diversifying the European Union's gas sources. It is evident that shifting reliance on gas imports from one country to another undermines rather than supports the European Union's energy security and affordability. The European Union has already saved billions by cutting gas imports thanks to renewable energy, energy efficiency, and demand reduction, which has also brought down energy prices and increased energy independence.<sup>3</sup>

The European Union is in ongoing conversation with the Trump administration about increasing US LNG imports to avoid sweeping tariffs. The European Union is reportedly considering bending its EU Methane Regulation for the U.S. administration and companies.<sup>4</sup> The European Union's methane regulation is a groundbreaking policy that, if implemented properly, can curb harmful methane emissions, protect communities near extractive sites, and allow the European Union to show the climate leadership it claims with its actions. In this letter we underline that increased reliance on LNG and other fossil fuel imports from the United States will undermine rather than support the European Union's energy security and affordability, while causing devastating local impacts. As a coalition of frontline communities and allies impacted by U.S. fossil fuel projects, we have witnessed and experienced these harmful impacts firsthand.

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<sup>1</sup> European Commission, "[Affordable Energy](#)", 2025

<sup>2</sup> European Commission, "[EU to fully end its dependency on Russian energy](#)", 2025

<sup>3</sup> Ember, "[European Electricity Review 2025](#)", 2025

<sup>4</sup> Reuters, "[US presses EU to align methane regulations for LNG](#)", 2024; Bloomberg, "[EU Will Help US Firms Meet Methane Rules to Boost LNG Trade](#)", 2025

## **ENERGY SECURITY – The United States is not a reliable trade partner and hence a poor bet for energy security. A full phaseout of gas imports, from any source, is the only solution.**

President Donald Trump recently announced sweeping tariffs<sup>5</sup> on many countries, including in Europe before demanding<sup>6</sup> the European Union purchase USD 350 billion in U.S. energy. That is almost three times the size of the global LNG market.<sup>7</sup> The Trump administration has since announced an extension<sup>8</sup> on tariffs, but continues to create instability and turbulence globally. This clearly shows the United States is not a reliable trade partner. Trump is creating global chaos with a barrage of policies destabilising the global economy while ignoring rule of law in his own country.<sup>9</sup>

In addition to not increasing reliance on U.S. gas, the European Union should avoid increasing gas import dependency from any other country, including countries that are considered reliable trade partners, while at the same time planning a just phaseout of fossil fuel production across the European Union.<sup>10</sup> Canada, for example, has offered to increase its gas exports to the EU by up to 100,000 COE/d every day<sup>11</sup>. Some of this gas originates from the world's 6th largest carbon bomb<sup>12</sup>, the Montney Fracking Fields which has severe harmful impacts on local communities<sup>13</sup>. It is also transported through the Coastal GasLink pipeline that has been pushed through Wet'suwet'en territory without consent, leading to well-documented<sup>14</sup> militarised<sup>15</sup> violence<sup>16</sup> and violations of Indigenous rights set in the Canadian Supreme Court.<sup>17</sup> True security requires an end to dependency on fossil fuels. It requires breaking free from oligarchs and billionaires who continue to profit while they throw fuel on the fire of the climate crisis. Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the European Union managed to reduce its gas demand by almost 20%, the way forward is for the bloc to continue its efforts, and operate a just and full transition away from fossil fuels, not tie itself to unpredictable fossil fuel producers, wherever they are.

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<sup>5</sup> Politico, "[Trump hits 'pathetic' Europe with 25 percent tariffs](#)", 2025

<sup>6</sup> Politico, "[Trump says EU must buy \\$350B of US energy to get tariff relief](#)", 2025

<sup>7</sup> Straits Research, "[Liquefied Natural Gas \(LNG\) Market Size](#)", 2025

<sup>8</sup> Politico, "[Trump grants extension to European Union on tariff hike](#)", 2025

<sup>9</sup> The Guardian, "[Trump's defiance of court orders is 'testing the fences' of the rule of law](#)"

<sup>10</sup> Oil Change International, "[Troubled Waters: How North Sea Countries Are Fueling Climate Disaster](#)", 2024

<sup>11</sup> Natural Resources Canada, "[Minister Wilkinson Advances Energy Security and the Global Transition to Net Zero at the International Energy Agency Ministerial](#)", 2022

<sup>12</sup> The Guardian, "[Revealed: the 'carbon bombs' set to trigger catastrophic climate breakdown](#)", 2022

<sup>13</sup> PBS, "[A Canadian Gas Field Is Polluting First Nation Communities](#)", 2023

<sup>14</sup> EyeSteelFilm, "[YINTAH](#)", 2024

<sup>15</sup> Friends of the Earth Japan, "[JBIC and Japan's LNG Financing Harms Communities and the Planet](#)", 2024

<sup>16</sup> The Guardian, "[Canada police prepared to shoot Indigenous activists, documents show](#)", 2019

<sup>17</sup> Supreme Court of Canada, "[Delgamuukw v. British Columbia](#)", 1997

## **ENERGY AFFORDABILITY – U.S. gas is expensive and would increase EU energy prices. Renewables and energy efficiency are the available and affordable alternatives.**

The U.S. Department of Energy's own 2024 LNG Export Study shows that increasing U.S. LNG exports will lead to increased emissions, displacing renewable energy and raising energy costs for EU consumers due to the expense of liquefaction, shipping, and regasification. The Department of Energy's analysis also shows exporting U.S. LNG would increase costs for U.S. consumers.<sup>18</sup>

Fossil fuel reliance from any source is costly and exposes the European Union to gas price volatility. Between 2021-2023, the European Union spent over EUR 650 billion in emergency measures to shield consumers and businesses from high costs of energy inflation, primarily linked to rising gas prices.<sup>19</sup> The most effective route towards cutting the European Union's energy bills is therefore doubling down on renewable energy and energy efficiency, alongside a fossil fuel phaseout. EU gas demand is already in decline, with a 19% drop in LNG imports in 2024 and a 20% reduction in overall gas consumption between 2021 and 2024.<sup>20</sup> Since 2019, the European Union has avoided importing an additional 92 bcm fossil gas and 55 million tonnes more coal, which has helped the European Union save EUR 59 billion on fossil fuel imports.<sup>21</sup> The European Union can cut this bill further through a planned full and fair fossil fuel phaseout.

## **COMMUNITY IMPACTS – U.S. gas harms local communities in the United States and beyond. Gas from any source causes devastating local impacts as well as climate impacts that harm communities across the globe.**

LNG terminals pose serious safety, public health, and environmental consequences for nearby communities, which are often located in Black, Brown, Indigenous, and low-income communities often deemed by industry as "sacrifice zones."<sup>22</sup> In 2022, Freeport LNG exploded sending a fireball 450 feet in the sky and released roughly 120,000 cubic feet of LNG, methane.<sup>23</sup> Meanwhile, communities impacted by LNG terminals are also seeing significant environmental consequences from dredging and higher vessel traffic, impacting vital coastal ecosystems and local industries like commercial fishing.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> United States Department of Energy Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management, "[Natural Gas Regulation](#)", 2024

<sup>19</sup> Bruegel, "[National fiscal policy responses to the energy crisis](#)", 2023

<sup>20</sup> Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis, "[European LNG Tracker](#)", 2025

<sup>21</sup> Ember, "[European Electricity Review 2025](#)", 2025

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214629623001640>

<sup>23</sup> Reuters, "[U.S. regulator bars Freeport LNG plant restart over safety concerns](#)", 2022

<sup>24</sup> Gas Outlook, "[Louisiana LNG could be 'nail in the coffin' for local fishermen](#)", 2024

LNG plants emit a toxic mix of carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs).<sup>25</sup> According to the Environmental Health Project, studies have shown that these pollutants are associated with a range of health impacts, including headaches, coughing, dizziness, and other respiratory illnesses.<sup>26</sup> Furthermore, the air pollution from existing U.S. LNG export terminals is estimated to cause 60 premature deaths a year, at a total of just under USD 1 billion to public health.<sup>27</sup>

Recent attempts to deregulate U.S. gas infrastructure<sup>28</sup> and gut environmental laws<sup>29</sup> will only make these impacts more severe for communities.

These impacts are not just prevalent in the United States, but are commonplace for fossil fuel projects across the world. In Canada, hundreds of physicians and nurses have come together to make it clear that fracking and LNG is harming their healthcare system<sup>30</sup>: it is causing harmful air pollutants, high rates of childhood leukemia and premature deaths<sup>31</sup>. In the Philippines, an LNG terminal threatens the “Amazon of the Oceans,” endangering over 300 coral species and the livelihoods of 2 million people. Developers of the Scarborough project in Australia failed to gain the free, prior, and informed consent of Indigenous people on whose land and sea country the project would take place. In Indonesia, fisherfolk have seen a drop in their net profits, some days down to one-tenth of what it used to be, due to the development of an LNG project and the entry restrictions placed on surrounding waters. In Mozambique, at least 550 families were displaced for an LNG project situated in a conflict-torn region that has been linked to human rights abuses of civilians. In order to live by its values and comply with its laws,<sup>32</sup> the European Union should avoid enabling these harmful, reputation-damaging, and uneconomic projects, whether through gas imports or through investments using taxpayer’s money through EU public finance institutions such as Export Credit Agencies (ECAs).<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> *Louisiana Illuminator*, “[LNG export terminals pose a growing and invisible threat: air pollution](#)”, 2023

<sup>26</sup> Environmental Health Project, “[Liquefied Natural Gas \(LNG\): Health and Climate Impacts](#)”, 2023

<sup>27</sup> Greenpeace USA, “[Permit To kill: Potential health and economic impacts from U.S. LNG export terminal permitted emissions](#)”, 2024

<sup>28</sup> *The Hill*, “[Trump blocks rule to implement methane fee for oil and gas companies](#)”, 2025

<sup>29</sup> *The Hill*, “[House advances budget bill boosting fossil fuels, undercutting environmental reviews](#)”, 2025

<sup>30</sup> Amira Aker et al., “[The human health effects of unconventional oil and gas development \(UOGD\): A scoping review of epidemiologic studies](#)”, 2024

<sup>31</sup> Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, Canadian Association of Nurses for the Environment, “[LNG and Health Care](#)”, 2025

<sup>32</sup> European Commission, “[Corporate sustainability due diligence](#)”, 2024

<sup>33</sup> Carbon Tracker, “[Stranded Exports: How export credit agencies continue to finance risky overseas oil and gas projects](#)”, 2025

## **CLIMATE LEADERSHIP – Increased reliance on gas imports from the United States or anywhere else conflict with the European Union’s climate commitments and its climate leadership ambitions.**

Long-term reliance on gas imports from the United States or anywhere else contradicts the European Union’s COP28 commitment to “transition away from fossil fuels” and undermines its emission reduction targets.<sup>34</sup> Contrary to industry claims, the evidence shows that increased LNG usage will lead to a net-increase in emissions, not lower them.<sup>35</sup> In the current geopolitical climate, it is more important than ever for the European Union to maintain its role as climate leader and as Commissioner Jørgensen puts it, not backtrack but fast-track the green transition — so the European Union can become the European community of wind turbines, solar panels and geothermal generators rather than the Community of Coal and Steel allowing it to save up to USD 2.5 trillion on fossil fuel imports by 2040.<sup>36</sup> This will benefit both households and the EU economy. Through reducing fossil fuel imports, ending fossil fuel handouts and making polluters pay, the European Union can free up the public funding that is needed for an accelerated transition to an equitable and fossil free future with good quality and green jobs.

The only way for the European Union to reach energy independence and security is to rapidly wind down and ultimately end its reliance on fossil fuel imports, from anywhere. It can and must do so. With up to 1 in 4 households in the European Union currently unable to adequately heat, cool, or light their homes, the European Union needs real measures to address energy poverty and affordability, such as banning disconnections and supporting renewable energy communities.<sup>37</sup> LNG and other gas investments and imports are not the answer. The European Union can save billions, build a resilient economy, and ensure Europe’s long-term energy security and independence by accelerating a just transition towards renewables.<sup>38</sup>

We are requesting a meeting to discuss this matter in further detail to help inform your decision-making.

Yours sincerely,

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<sup>34</sup> United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, [“COP28 Agreement Signals “Beginning of the End” of the Fossil Fuel Era”](#), 2023

<sup>35</sup> Oil Change International, [“Planned EU investments in LNG risk increased dependency on US at worst possible time”](#), 2025

<sup>36</sup> *The Parliament*, [“Europe’s new Energy Union — cleaner, cheaper and more connected”](#), 2025

<sup>37</sup> Right to Energy Coalition, [“Reaction to the EU’s Action Plan for Affordable Energy”](#), 2025; Right to Energy Coalition, [“Energy Poverty”](#), 2025

<sup>38</sup> E3G, [“Clean energy has already made the EU more secure – and more can be done”](#), 2025

Accelerate Neighborhood Climate Action  
Animals Are Sentient Beings  
Arizona Health Professionals for Climate Action  
ARTivism Virginia  
Austin Sierra Club  
  
Beaver County Marcellus Awareness Community  
Better Brazoria Co: Clean Air & Water  
Better Path Coalition  
Between the Waters  
Breathe Easy Susquehanna County  
  
Bucks Environmental Action  
Businesses for a Livable Climate  
Call to Action Colorado  
Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church  
CatholicNetwork US  
  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Center for Oil & Gas Organizing  
Center for a Sustainable Coast  
Chesapeake Climate Action Network  
Citizens Caring for the Future  
  
Citizens' Alliance for a Sustainable Englewood  
Clean Earth 4 Kids  
Clean Energy Action  
The CLEO Institute  
Climate & Community Institute  
  
Climate Conversation Brazoria County  
Climate Defenders  
Climate First!  
Climate Generation  
Climate Hawks Vote  
  
Climate Reality Project Northern Colorado  
Climate Reality Susquehanna Valley Pennsylvania  
Coalition to Protect New York  
Colorado Businesses for a Livable Climate  
Colorado Coalition for a Livable Climate  
  
Colorado Cross-Disabilities Coalition  
Colorado Dem Party Energy & Enviro Initiative  
Colorado Jewish Climate Action  
Colorado Mothers Out Front  
Community for Sustainable Energy  
  
Connecticut Citizen Action Group  
Delaware Riverkeeper Network  
Dimock Environmental Research Center  
Divest Oregon: Reinvest in a Fossil Free Future  
Dream Tank  
  
Earth Care  
Earth Ethics  
Earthworks  
Elmirans & Friends Against Fracking  
Empower Our Future

For a Better Bayou  
For the Greater Good  
FracTracker Alliance  
FreshWater Accountability Project  
Fridays for Future USA  
  
Friends of the Earth U.S.  
Glasgow Actions Team  
Globeville-Elyria-Swansea Coalition  
Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance  
Greater Park Hill Community  
  
Green America  
Green House Connection Center  
Green Party of New York  
Green Party of Washington State  
GreenFaith  
  
Gulf of Mexico Youth Climate Summit  
Gulf South Fossil Finance Hub  
Hip Hop Caucus  
Indivisible ADK / Saratoga  
Indivisible Ambassadors  
  
Inland Ocean Coalition  
Inspiration of Sedona  
Institute for Policy Studies Climate Policy Program  
Interfaith EarthKeepers  
International Marine Mammal Project  
  
Interstate 70 Citizens Advisory Group  
Larimer Alliance for Health, Safety, & Environment  
Linnton Tank the Tanks  
Littleton Business Alliance  
Long Beach Alliance for Clean Energy  
  
Mayfair Park Neighborhood Association  
Mental Health & Inclusion Ministries  
Methane Action  
Micah Six Eight Mission  
Michigan Clinicians for Climate Action  
  
Midwest Building Decarbonization Coalition  
Mind's Eye Productions  
Montbello Neighborhood Improvement Association  
Move Past Plastic  
NEPA Green Coalition  
  
New Energy Economy  
New Mexico No False Solutions  
No False Climate Solutions Pennsylvania  
North American Climate, Conservation & Environment  
North Carolina Climate Justice Collective  
  
North Country Earth Action  
North Range Concerned Citizens  
Northern Colorado Community Rights Network  
Nuclear Energy Information Service  
Nuclear Information & Resource Service

Oasis Earth  
Ocean Conservation Research  
Oil & Gas Action Network  
Oil Change International  
Oilfield Witness  
  
Olympic Climate Action  
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Our Sacred Earth  
Patriots from the Oil & Gas Shales  
Peace, Justice, Sustainability NOW!  
  
Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light  
People for a Healthy Environment  
The People's Justice Council  
Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania  
Port Arthur Community Action Network  
  
Preserve Giles County VA  
Preserve Montgomery County VA  
Protect Our Water, Heritage, Rights  
Public Citizen  
Putnam Progressives  
  
The Quantum Institute  
Rachel Carson Council  
Rainforest Action Network  
RapidShift Network  
Rise Up West Virginia  
  
Rogue Climate  
RTD Riders Alliance  
San Antonio Bay Waterkeeper  
San Luis Obispo Clean Water  
Save Our Susquehanna  
  
Save the Environmental Protection Agency  
SAVE THE FROGS!  
Scientist Rebellion Turtle Island  
Small Business Alliance  
SoCal 350 Climate Action  
  
Sonoma County Climate Activist Network  
South Texas Environmental Justice Network  
Southwest Organization for Sustainability  
Spirit of the Sun  
Stand.earth  
  
Sunnyside United Neighbors  
Syracuse Cultural Workers  
System Change Not Climate Change  
TAP Communications  
Terra Advocati

Texas Campaign for the Environment  
Third Act  
Third Act Colorado  
Third Act Sacramento  
TRUST Climate Action Strategists  
  
Turtle Island Restoration Network  
Unitarian Universalists for Just Economic Community  
Unite North Metro Denver  
United Community Action Network of Metro Denver  
United Native Americans  
  
United Student Leaders  
Utah Moms for Clean Air  
Veterans For Peace Baltimore Phil Berrigan Memorial  
Vibrant Littleton  
Wall of Women  
  
The Wei  
Western Slope Businesses for a Livable Climate  
Women's Environment & Development Organization  
Womxn from the Mountain  
Working for Racial Equity  
  
Youth Climate Finance Alliance  
Zero Hour  
1000 Grandmothers for Future Generations  
198 methods  
350 Bay Area Action  
  
350 Chicago  
350 Dallas  
350 Deschutes  
350 Eugene  
350 Hawaii  
  
350 Juneau – Climate Action for Alaska  
350 Kishwaukee  
350 Massachusetts  
350 Merced  
350 Pensacola  
  
350 Santa Barbara  
350 Seattle  
350 STL  
350 Tacoma  
350 Triangle  
  
350 Wisconsin  
350 Yakima Climate Action  
350.org