



RI Interfaith Power & Light

A faith-based response to climate change

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Dear Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council,

We at Rhode Island Interfaith Power and Light (RI IPL) write to you in opposition to the proposed LNG and fracking facility being considered by you this evening.

There are the obvious reasons to oppose this project:

- It is being sited in an already heavily impacted, low-income community, without sufficient community involvement;
- The danger zone, the potential for an LNG fire would wipe out most of that community, if such were to occur. The site is not sufficiently distanced from or protective of, the surrounding community;
- The transport of the material onsite, even absent an LNG fire, poses a grave danger in the form of fossil fuel emissions and smaller explosions resulting from the fracking process;

And yet we write as a people of faith, asking you, as the guardians of the state's coastal resources, to think even beyond those obvious negatives.

As climate change progresses, and sea levels rise, is now the time in which RI, after years of careful guardianship of our coastal gifts, will choose to reverse its guardianship stance and replace it by a profit-making mentality? For there is nothing about this project, other than a very limited number of construction jobs, which demonstrates any benefit to the community or the state.

Has the proposed facility been sited with the increased potential for dangerous weather resulting from climate change, and what steps would be taken to further ensure the safety of the surrounding communities?

Most importantly, at a time when we need to urgently reduce and eventually eliminate the burning of all fossil fuels, it does not make sense to invest in gas infrastructure. With this LNG facility, we will not be able to reach the goals of the Resilient RI Act 2014. This bill establishes targets for greenhouse gas emissions, with an 85% reduction by 2050 below 1990 levels. The impacts of global warming on our state will not only be devastating for our RI economy, but will bring even much greater harm to people here and all over the world.

In the past, this Council has chosen protection of state resources, of common good, over all else. Such is the charge of the Council.

Please do so again tonight and say "no" to this misguided project.

In faith,

Kristen Ivy Moses
Executive Director