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Docket: DOE-HQ-2022-0007

Importation or Exportation of Liquified Natural Gas or Electric Energy; Applications, Authorizations, etc.: Venture Global CP2 LNG, LLC

Comment On: DOE-HQ-2022-0007-0001

Importation or Exportation of Liquified Natural Gas or Electric Energy; Applications, Authorizations, etc.: Venture Global CP2 LNG, LLC

Document: DOE-HQ-2022-0007-DRAFT-0001

Comment on FR Doc # 2022-00192

Submitter Information

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General Comment

Export Permit for Venture Global's CP2 LNG Export terminal (Docket #2022-00192)

I write today to express my firm opposition to Venture Global's application for Long-Term Authorization to Export LNG to Non-Free Trade Agreement Nations. Exporting fossil fuels like LNG is destroying the Gulf Coast of Louisiana, and we can no longer sacrifice our people and environment to benefit corporations and foreign energy markets. LNG is a fossil fuel. In no way is LNG a low-carbon alternative to oil and coal, and Venture Global's claims of carbon capture and sequestration won't change that fact. The only way for fossil fuels to be a part of our climate solution is by keeping it in the ground - approving more exports will make it impossible for the Biden Administration to achieve its climate goals.

Building another LNG export terminal in Cameron, Louisiana will negatively impact the gulf coast environment. The coastline where Venture Global plans to build CP2 LNG is an important habitat for endangered and threatened species like the E. Black Rail, a small, reclusive bird that nests in the region's marshes. E. Black Rail has already lost a significant amount of habitat to the construction of Calcasieu Pass LNG and, combined, these projects will destroy much of their remaining habitat.

In addition to CP2 LNG and Calcasieu Pass LNG, fossil fuel companies are planning two other massive LNG projects within a couple of miles of the CP2 site. The cumulative impacts on local air and water will make this small region largely uninhabitable for people and wildlife. And the risks of disaster to those who remain would be significant - a vapor cloud explosion at one facility could set off explosions at the other facilities. Compounding the inherent risks of LNG export facilities, this region is highly vulnerable to hurricanes and storm surges, which have only gotten worse in recent years - five category 4 or 5 hurricanes since 2017. CP2 would be located right on the coastline and would bear the brunt of 15-20' storm surges, which have pounded the region in recent years.

I know that the Department of Energy does not necessarily review the impacts that these projects have on

the environment and endangered species. However, you should be concerned about the industry destroying an entire region of the United States just to export fossil fuels to foreign countries. This does not serve the national interest, it serves corporate interests. The local population and environment should not have to pay the price.

The latest tensions between Russia and Ukraine have given the fossil fuel industry a new narrative - that their gas can save Europe's energy sector. The best way to save Europe's energy sector is to adopt renewable sources and move away from fossil fuels altogether. There is no way that approving this export permit and the development of this project would benefit other countries at this moment. It would take years for this project to come online and won't have any bearing on the current tensions over Russia. Granting this permit would, however, ensure that the world continues to rely on fossil fuels instead of transitioning to renewable energy sources like solar and wind.

Respectfully,

Caleb Merendino