

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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**Docket:** DOE-HQ-2022-0020

Importation or Exportation of Liquefied Natural Gas or Electric Energy; Applications, Authorizations, etc.: New Fortress Energy Louisiana FLNG, LLC

**Comment On:** DOE-HQ-2022-0020-0001

Importation or Exportation of Liquefied Natural Gas or Electric Energy; Applications, Authorizations, etc.: New Fortress Energy Louisiana FLNG, LLC

**Document:** DOE-HQ-2022-0020-DRAFT-0007

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## Submitter Information

**Name:** Christopher Lish

**Address:**

San Rafael, CA, 94903

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## General Comment

Monday, July 11, 2022

Subject: Reject the New Fortress Energy Louisiana FLNG Project -- Importation or Exportation of Liquefied Natural Gas or Electric Energy; Applications, Authorizations, etc.: New Fortress Energy Louisiana FLNG, LLC (Document ID: DOE\_FRDOC\_0001-4399)

To Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, Senior Advisor to Karen Skelton, and Office of Regulation, Analysis, and Engagement Office of Resource Sustainability Director Amy Sweeney:

I am strongly opposed to New Fortress's application to export liquefied natural gas (LNG) to non-free trade agreement nations. The exportation of fossil fuels and the facilities that make it possible are ravaging the Louisiana coast in areas already vulnerable to storms, storms that are projected to increase in intensity with climate change. Further, despite messaging that LNG will aid Europe to gain independence from Russian fossil fuels, this project will not aid Europe for years.

As you are aware, New Fortress Energy, LLC is seeking to construct two floating liquefied natural gas (FLNG) facilities each with the capacity of 1.4 million metric tonnes per annum (MTPA) of gas. I am concerned about the negative impacts that the proposed offshore natural gas export deepwater port, the related pipeline connection, and other infrastructure will have on the local, regional, and global environment, and Grand Isle and surrounding Gulf Coast communities.

The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement and the Environmental Protection Agency have raised concerns with the project. In a "statement of completeness" from the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, the agency found the design of the project—which utilizes "jack-up rigs"—

to be unstable and hazardous during hurricanes.

In addition to an unsafe design for construction, the proposed project raises significant concerns regarding harms to the marine environment, the health impacts to nearby residents, and whether the deepwater port project construction and operation is in the "national interest" and "consistent with national security and other national policy goals and objectives, including energy sufficiency and environmental quality." Specifically, the proposed project would harm the health and safety of coastal residents of Lafourche, Jefferson, and Plaquemines Parish located 16 miles from the proposed offshore facility. Notably, these areas are home to Indigenous communities that are still barely recovering from Hurricane Ida. Thus, this project would undercut the Administration's commitment to tackling climate change and protecting public health, environmental justice, and the environment.

An FLNG deepwater port fossil fuel export facility does not serve the national interest as it would lead to significant environmental degradation and adverse public health impacts. This project would cause expansion of gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing (aka fracking) that would further lock in fossil fuel dependence, exacerbate the climate crisis, increase vessel traffic and the risk of harmful pollution events and other accidents, and increase toxic air and water pollution in a region already overburdened by the fossil fuel industry's significant impacts.

Any new fossil fuel infrastructure undermines the national interest and the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to tackling these crises through environmental and public health protections, and investment in a clean, sustainable, and just energy future. Energy demand can be better met with clean, renewable energy technology. These types of projects would instead lock in new and expanded fossil fuel production and contribute to global climate change and environmental injustice. Constructing new infrastructure that facilitates extraction, transport, and processing will perpetuate fossil fuel dependence for decades to come, for the sole purpose of growing oil and gas industry profits, all at the expense of our climate, Gulf coast ecosystems, and frontline communities that have long served as sacrifice zones for the fossil fuel industry.

The health and wellbeing of residents of the Gulf Coast must be our top priority. The New Fortress Energy FLNG facility is not in the public interest as it would cause environmental degradation, adverse public health impacts, and economic instability. The numerous projects for LNG would individually and together have negative impacts on climate, air and water quality, coastal and marine ecosystems and wildlife, frontline communities, public health, and environmental justice.

"The ultimate test of a moral society is the kind of world that it leaves to its children."  
-- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Please do NOT add my name to your mailing list. I will learn about future developments on this issue from other sources.

Sincerely,  
Christopher Lish  
San Rafael, CA