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To: [FERGAS](#)  
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To whom it may concern:

I learned of Pieridae Energy's proposal to export gas using the Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline just yesterday. Export of natural gas from the United States is NOT in the public interest. It is economically risky, since foreign markets often pay much more for gas than U.S. markets. Global competition will likely increase domestic prices. Further, natural gas is a limited resource; shipping it overseas will deplete the resource faster. Even if that were not true, natural gas is a fossil fuel and its primary component, methane, is a greenhouse gas that is 86 times as potent as carbon dioxide in the short term—exporting gas equates to increasing supply *and* emissions, a climate disaster.

Pieridae's application claims that "no new pipelines or planned pipeline expansion will be implemented as a consequence of, or be dependent upon, Pieridae's decision to take capacity on that pipeline." However, Pieridae does admit that they will rely on these new pipelines for transportation. They need the connections provided by new or expanded pipelines in order to access the gas in the "larger national US pipeline system."

I live in the path of one of the newly proposed pipelines that would likely tie into the M&N Pipeline, if approved (Kinder Morgan's Northeast Energy Direct project). This new pipeline has to prove "public interest" as well, in order to take peoples' land by eminent domain. They do this by skewing markets and derailing energy efficiency and renewable energy efforts. Then, after they have a quarter of their 2.2 bcf per day capacity subscribed, they claim that they can't control who their customers are, and sell to the highest credit-worthy bidder—probably an exporter, such as Pieridae. It has been clear since Kinder Morgan's first Open Season memo that they are excited by the prospect of exports. If gas in New England is in as short of supply as the industry would have us believe, how is exporting any of it in the public interest?

New pipelines cause serious environmental and economic damage to the areas that they and their accompanying infrastructure are sited. These pipelines cut through "permanently protected" conservation lands, as well as private land. Property values decline. Huge compressor stations change rural character and impact quality of life with noise and light pollution. Pieridae's application *does* depend on the construction of new, high-capacity pipelines and expansion of existing pipelines. As such, there should be an environmental impact statement that takes into account the consequences of allowing this to go forward—including the construction of new pipelines, the extraction of natural gas through hydraulic fracturing, and the climate change implications of releasing additional methane into the

atmosphere.

It is unconscionable to view all of these many projects independently. They are interconnected and designed with private corporate gain in mind, NOT public good.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment—I hope that this comment period is extended so that all interested parties have the opportunity to participate.

Julia Blyth



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