We, the undersigned organizations, respectfully petition you to stop the proliferation of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) export facilities. It is urgent that your Administration takes bold steps to build a green energy economy and encourage the same worldwide. Your pledge to decarbonize and replace fossil fuels with clean, renewable energy sources requires, in the first instance, rolling back the Trump Administration's efforts to expand dirty fossil fuels and rescue the failing Oil and Gas Industry through a policy of "energy dominance".

One action that needs to be taken immediately is to stop the implementation of Mr. Trump's Executive Order and subsequent rulemaking to allow the transport of LNG by rail. This is a reckless and potentially catastrophic deregulation that endangers millions of Americans. We are also asking that your administration immediately stop the Trump Administration's changes to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for LNG export projects that exempt facilities from review by the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) through categorical exclusions, and especially including non-FERC-jurisdictional LNG export facilities where no NEPA review had ever been performed by any federal agency. These changes undermine essential protection afforded in NEPA's environmental review process. Furthermore, you should use your executive authority to issue an Executive Order halting gas exports to the fullest extent allowed by the Natural Gas Act. Overall, your immediate action is needed to stop the expansion of LNG that only serves special interests, puts profits over people, and leaves the public and the environment in harm's way.

Communities of color and those with low household incomes comprise about 38 percent of the people living within three miles of proposed LNG facilities. In addition to safety threats, public health is negatively impacted by air pollution from LNG processing, including particulate matter 2.5, total particulate matter, hazardous air pollutants such as benzene and mercury compounds, volatile organic compounds, ammonia, sulfuric acid, sulfur oxides, and nitrogen oxides. Those closest to the emission source receive the most harm from most pollutants. Furthermore, the enormous footprint of these emissions can cause damage to human health for up to 159 miles. Additionally, recent analyses show a disturbing relationship between COVID-19 and air pollution: the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases increases as PM 2.5 increases and potential death rate from the virus also rises. Throughout gas and oil extraction, development, delivery, and end use, public health is harmed, especially for those on the frontlines. The history of disproportionate current and historic environmental burdens on black and brown communities and the poor is a pattern of gross environmental injustice that is intolerable. In your January 27th "Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad Executive Order", you commit your administration to centering environmental justice in a "whole of government" approach; stopping LNG export and its infrastructure is a priority to address these oppressive inequities.

LNG is fracked methane gas that is extracted from shale formations and processed into a liquid state by cooling to minus 260 degrees F, reducing its volume by more than 600 times to facilitate storage and transport. LNG is classified as a hazardous material. When spilled, it becomes flammable and potentially explosive, posing significant and unmitigatable danger to public safety and health and to the environment. This threat to public safety accompanies every

step of LNG's supply chain including processing, handling, transloading, storage, and transporting. The risks of potential catastrophic damage to human life and the environment posed by a fire and/or explosion from a spill or breach of an LNG container outweigh any claimed benefits of this alternative fuel.

The full life cycle of greenhouse gas emissions from extraction and liquefaction to end use are so great that, depending on amounts released and vented, they can be as bad or worse than coal in terms of atmospheric warming, <a href="mailto:exacerbating climate change">exacerbating climate change</a>. Methane is 86 times <a href="mailto:more powerful than carbon">more powerful than carbon</a> in heating the atmosphere on a 20-year time scale. LNG production increases greenhouse gas emissions at the very time we, as a nation, are supposed to be achieving substantial reductions (<a href="mailto:reducing greenhouse gases by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030">reducing greenhouse gases by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030</a>) in order to do our part to <a href="mailto:combat the climate crisis">combat the climate crisis</a>.

A recent report documents that from 2018 to 2019, the oil and gas sector experienced the largest year-to-year growth in reported greenhouse gas emissions, led by LNG, which reported a 52% emissions increase. Another new report found that producing, liquefying, and transporting the gas will generate up to 213 million metric tons of new greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. alone by 2030, equal to the annual emissions of up to 45 million cars. The export of LNG for use overseas further increases emissions as the gas travels by ship, is regasified and finally burned, discharging both methane (primarily from regasification) and carbon dioxide (primarily from combustion), contravening global climate goals.

The expansion of LNG export capacity requires the proliferation of gas drilling and fracking to feed the demand created by the export market. This induces new and expanded fracking and its infrastructure, such as pipelines and, with that, environmental destruction, public health harm, and climate damage. Economic analysts explain that increasing gas takeaway capacity induces the production of gas. The higher priced markets reached through exporting LNG overseas provide incentive that would not exist for domestic natural gas otherwise. But the externalized costs for the public rise exponentially as the industry profits.

Investing in capital-intensive LNG export infrastructure increases consumption of natural gas globally and means dependence on polluting fossil fuels for decades more, displacing clean renewables and disincentivizing efficient energy use. Additionally, demand for LNG in today's global market is in steady decline, threatening to turn LNG facilities into stranded assets. Prices for LNG hit record lows as markets globalized and U.S. LNG production soared in 2019, producing a global supply glut. In fact, today there is more LNG export capacity in development in the U.S. than was consumed globally in 2019. Policy decisions in France and Ireland in recent weeks are shutting out LNG imports, and the economic forecast for LNG is unstable at best. The growth of renewable non-fossil fuel energy sources and energy efficiencies are more economically beneficial, climate friendly, and provide more self-determination for communities. We need a secure green energy future worthy of public investment.

In conclusion, we urgently need your Administration to take bold steps to build a green and ethical energy economy. This requires rolling back the Trump Administration's efforts to expand dirty fossil fuels and deregulate environmental protections while, at the same time, supporting

your pledge to decarbonize the economy with carbon-free, renewable, environmentally just, and energy-efficient systems. Your immediate action is needed to stop the export of LNG and its service to special interests at the expense of the public good.

Respectfully submitted,

## <u>Listed in alphabetical order:</u>

198 methods

350 Charlotte

350 Eastside

350 Eugene

350 New Orleans

350 Philadelphia

350 Seattle

350 Silicon Valley

350.org, National

350eugene

Action Together NJ

Allegheny County Clean Air Now (ACCAN)

AMP Creeks Council

Baltimore Phil Berrigan Memorial Chapter Veterans For Peace

Beaver County Marcellus Awareness Community (BCMAC)

Berks Gas Truth

**Better Path Coalition** 

Beyond Extreme Energy

Bill McKibben

Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League

BlueWaveNJ

**Bold Alliance** 

Boricuas Unidos en la Diáspora

Breathe Easy Susquehanna County

**Breathe Project** 

Bucks County Concerned Citizens Against the Pipelines

**Bucks Environmental Action** 

Businesses for a Livable Climate

Call to Action Colorado

Camp White Pine

Carrizo/Comecrudo Tribe of Texas

Cascadia Climate Action Now

CatholicNetwork.US

Catskill Mountainkeeper

Cedar.green (formerly Stop Fracked Gas-PDX/Stop Zenith Collaborative)

Center for Biological Diversity

Central Jersey Coalition Against Endless War

Central Jersey Environmental Defenders

Citizens for Renewables

Clean Air Council

Clean Ocean Action

Clean Water Action- Pennsylvania

Clean Water Action, NJ State

Clean Water Action, National

Climate Change Awareness and Action

Climate Hawks Vote

Climate Reality - CA

Climate Reality DFW - Plastics Working Group

Climate Reality Project - Lehigh Valley Chapter

Climate Reality Project Los Angeles Chapter

Climate Reality Project, Greater Cincinnati Chapter

Climate Reality San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

ClimateMama

**CNY Solidarity Coalition Climate Justice Committee** 

Coalition Against Pilgrim Pipeline - NJ

Coalition For Peace Action - Tennessee

Coalition for Peace Action Pennsylvania

Coalition to Ban Unsafe Oil Trains

Coalition Against Pilgrim Pipeline - NJ

Comite Dialogo Ambiental, Inc.

Concerned Citizens Pennsylvania

Concerned Health Professionals of New York

Damascus Citizens for Sustainability

Delaware Riverkeeper Network

DiasporaPA

**DivestNJ Coalition** 

Don't Gas the Meadowlands Coalition

**Douglas County Global Warming Coalition** 

Earth Action, Inc.

Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power & Light

Earthworks

**Edgmont Community Safety Group** 

El Puente - LCAN

Elizabeth Nields Clay Workshop

**Employment Horizons** 

**EMPOWER NJ** 

Environmental Health Project - PA

Environmental Justice Taskforce of the Western NY Peace Center

**Extinction Rebellion Kentucky** 

Food & Water Watch

Food and Water Action Europe

FrackBustersNY

FracTracker Alliance

FreshWater Accountability Project

Friends For Environmental Justice

Friends of Buckingham

Friends of Penobscot Bay

Friends of Susan Koehne

Friends of the Earth France

Friends of the Earth US - National

Gas Free Seneca

Graduate School of Planning, University of Puerto Rico- Rio Piedras

Green Amendments For The Generations

Green America

Green Party - GA

Green Party of Allegheny County

Greenbank Associates

GreenFaith

Greenpeace USA

Gulf Coast Center for Law and Policy

HEALING & PROTECTING OUR LAND TOGETHER - A CALL TO PRAYER

Healthy Gulf

Hilton Head for Peace

Honor the Earth

Howard County Climate Action, MD

Indigenous Environmental Network

Indivisible

Indivisible Lambertville New Hope

Indivisible NJ5

IWW/DSA

Izaak Walton League of America - Allegheny County chapter

JFK Democratic Club

L&R Georgia

LAWPA (Local Authority Western PA)

Lebanon Pipeline Awareness

LEPOCO Peace Center (Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern)

Living Rivers & Colorado Riverkeeper

Love Leitrim, Ireland

Marcellus Outreach Butler

MarchOnHarrisburg

Milwaukee Riverkeeper

MMR Medical

mothers against sport hunting

Mountain Lakes Preservation Alliance

Mountain Watershed Association

Murrysville Watch

NC-APPPL: Alliance to Protect Our People and the Places We Live

New York Climate Action Group

New York Communities for Change

New York Water Action

NJ Forest Watch/Friends of Sparta Mountain

NJ State Industrial Union Council

NJ Student Sustainability Coalition

NJ-08 For Progress

No Methanol 360

No North Brooklyn Pipeline

North Country Earth Action

North Jersey Sierra Club

Northern New Jersey NOW

**NW Philly Climate Action Network** 

NY Renews

**NYC Grassroots Alliance** 

Occupy Bergen County

Oceanic Global

Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition

Oil Change International

**Onward Oregon** 

Orange Residents Against Pilgrim Pipelines

Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility

Our Revolution Ocean County

OVEC-Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition

Partnership for sustainability

PAX Christi USA

PDA NJ

Pegasus Foundation

Pegasus Foundation, Patricia Ragan, Executive Director FLA

PennFuture

Pennsylvania Alliance for Clean Water and Air

People for a Healthy Environment

People Over Pipelines

Philadelphia Be The Change

Philadelphia Neighborhood Networks Environmental Action Committee

Philly Boricuas

Philly Boricuas, Adrián Rivera-Reyes, PhD, co-founder, PA

Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania

Pinelands Preservation Alliance

Plastic Pollution Coalition

Polemics Journal of the Working Class Struggle

Preserve Giles County

Preserve Montgomery County VA

Princeton Coalition for peace action

Progressives for Positive Change, Ann's Choice Senior Residence

**Project CoffeeHouse** 

Property Rights and Pipeline Center

Protect Northern PA

Put People First! PA

Rail Pollution Protection Pittsburgh

Rainforest Action Network

RapidShift Network

Remark

Residents Allied for the Future of Tioga (RAFT)

Resist Spectra

Resolution Media Fund

Responsible Drilling Alliance (RDA)

River Valley Organizing

Rogue Climate, Allie Rosenbluth, Campaigns Director, Southern Oregon

Roque Riverkeeper

Safe Energy Rights Group

Safety Before LNG, Ireland

Sane Energy Project

SASD – New York

Save RGV, Bill Berg, Board Member, TX

Save the Pine Bush

Save the Pine Bush

Schuylkill Pipeline Awareness

Seneca Lake Guardian, A Waterkeeper Alliance Affiliate

Seven Loaves DBA GOH Productions

ShaleshockCNY

SiemPResente

Sierra Club Virginia Chapter, New River Valley Group

Sierra Club, Atlantic Chapter

Sisters of St. Francis

Skylands Group-NJ Sierra Club Chapter

**SOMA Action** 

Sourland Conservancy

South Umpqua Rural Community Partnership

Stand.earth, National

Stop Fracked Gas PDX

Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion (SAPE)

Sullivan Alliance for Sustainable Development

Sunrise Movement: West Seattle branch

Sunrise Tacoma

Surfrider Foundation

Suwannee Riverkeeper, John S. Quarterman, FLA and GA

Tennessee Riverkeeper

Texas Campaign for the Environment

The alliance for sustainable communities Lehigh Valley

The Banner

The Climate Reality Project - National

The Last Plastic Straw

The Wei LLC

ThinkOcean Society

Tidewaters gateway Inc.

Turtle Island Restoration Network, Joanie Steinhaus, Gulf Program Director, National

Union Hill Freedmen Family Research Group

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Sussex County NJ

Unitarian Universalist Justice PA

Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Piedras

**UPSTREAM** 

UU Congregation of Binghamton, Green Sanctuary

**UUJusticePA** 

Virginia Citizens Consumer Council

Washington Environmental Council

Waterkeeper Alliance, Inc.

Waterkeepers Chesapeake

Waterspirit

We The People NJ-07

Western Environmental Law Center

WildEarth Guardians

Women Against War

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Triangle

Wynwood Rehab

Zero Hour

CC: Brenda Mallory, Chair, Council on Environmental Quality