



October 23, 2022

Members of the Pennsylvania Senate

Re: Opposition letter to HB 2458

Delaware Riverkeeper Network opposes **HB 2458**, the Philadelphia LNG Export Task Force Act. We oppose the concept of developing a port to export Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from Philadelphia for environmental, public health, and climate reasons. The Commonwealth needs to invest in projects that promote renewable and truly clean energy sources, not try to prop up outdated fossil fuels that harm public health and the environment, feed the climate crisis, and have no viable future as economically sustainable or beneficial energy sources.

A taskforce to study exporting LNG from Philadelphia will be a waste of state funding and the taxpayers' money and would bring no benefit to the public. The language of the bill is misleading because there is nothing "preventing" Philadelphia from exporting LNG. The lack of LNG export development in Philadelphia is because it is not viewed as a beneficial use of Philadelphia ports, carries unacceptable public safety threats, is incompatible with other port uses, represents a poor financial investment, and sinks important port resources into old fossil fuel projects that will soon be stranded assets without a future.

Philadelphia is the most densely populated city in Pennsylvania with a population of 1,546,920 and the Greater Philadelphia Region, including Chester and other southeast Pennsylvania communities within the Delaware River Port Region are among the top ten in density. (<http://www.usa.com/rank/pennsylvania-state--population-density--county-rank.htm>) LNG facilities, according to the federal government's guidance, are supposed to be located in "remote" locations due to the dangers associated with the unique properties of LNG, which is highly flammable and potentially explosive, and can cause catastrophic loss of life and infrastructure damage should there be a release of LNG.

The basic principle of protecting the public's safety and public assets eliminates the heavily populated Philadelphia, Chester, and Delaware River Port Region. Philadelphia, Chester, and the Delaware River Port Region populations are already disproportionately burdened with environmental, public health, and intolerable impacts that are harming people of color and low-

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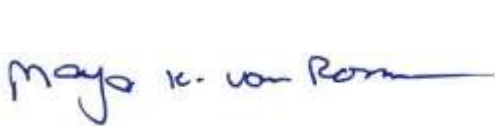
income populations. To layer on more environmental threats is not only wrong, it violates the basic rights of Pennsylvanians to clean air, water and healthy communities.

Fossil fuel development is being replaced by jobs and investments in truly clean, renewable and innovative technology that does not contribute greenhouse gases to the atmosphere and does not have the heavy environmental, climate, and public health burdens that fracking, LNG, and its infrastructure entail.

The need for alternative energy sources to Russian gas in Europe is not going to be filled by Pennsylvania fracked gas or by LNG exports from the Delaware River Ports. The Europeans are already working on self-sufficient sources of energy that do not continue to make them dependent on imported fuels, whether sold to them from Russia or United States. The United States should be helping them to do that, not trying to assist companies to sell them more dirty gas at prices that are a windfall for gas companies but a rip-off for needy European consumers. The current emergency in Ukraine is not a business opportunity to be exploited by industry and to do so is shameful.

Delaware Riverkeeper Network urges you to vote NO on HB 2458.

Thank you for your consideration,



Maya van Rossum
the Delaware Riverkeeper



Tracy Carluccio
Deputy Director