



For Immediate Release
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Delaware Riverkeeper Network Submits Legal Petition to NJDEP for PCB Pollution

Trenton, New Jersey - Delaware Riverkeeper Network and Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper submitted a petition to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection on December 8, 2020 (NJDEP) requesting they immediately address pollution of the Delaware River from the discharge of highly toxic polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). PCB-laden stormwater discharges from the Gibbstown Logistics Center have the potential to violate water quality standards due to the construction and operation of the deepwater port, located in Gibbstown, East Greenwich Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey on the Delaware River, south of Philadelphia and north of Chester, PA.

The discharges are related to both Dock 1 and the proposed Dock 2 at the terminal. Dock 2 is proposed to export Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and is under consideration by the Delaware River Basin Commission. DRBC Commissioners may vote on the permit for Dock 2 at their business meeting on Wednesday, December 9.

“For decades, industry has contaminated our river with PCBs. It took litigation by the Delaware Riverkeeper Network and partner environmental organizations, to force our government agencies to implement the Clean Water Act in order to address this dangerous toxin along with others many years ago. It is beyond reproach that our government agencies are once again falling down on the job in terms of addressing PCBs, fulfilling the mandates of the law, and are yet again allowing industry to get away with inflicting irreparable harm. It’s time for our state and federal agencies, and the interstate DRBC, to fully and fairly honor and implement the law, and stop forcing my organization to challenge them in order to do the right thing. The only proper action to

set things right, at this stage of the game, is for New Jersey and the DRBC to reject the Gibbstown LNG project,” said Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper.

DRN’s Petition was filed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:14A-6.13(f) and N.J.A.C. 7:14A-24.3(b), asking NJDEP to take action under N.J.A.C. 7:14A-6.13(e) requiring permittee Delaware River Partners, LLC (DRP) to apply for necessary permits that have not been issued as required by clean water regulations. An analysis on the [highly toxic PCBs](#) at the site of the proposed Gibbstown Export Terminal (the former DuPont Repauno site) was published by National Resources Defense Council last week.

As stated in the Petition: “DRN makes this request based on evidence that DRP’s discharges may be a significant contributor of pollutants based on the location of the discharges, the nature of the pollutants known to be present at that location, and the impaired quality of the tidal Delaware River, for which a Total Daily Maximum Load (“TMDL”) has been established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) to control discharges of polychlorinated biphenyls (“PCBs”).¹

A copy of the Petition is available here: <https://bit.ly/3oFbwQW>

The enclosures included with the Petition are located here: <https://bit.ly/3n3DvcN>

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¹ See N.J.A.C. 7:14A-6.13(e)(1).