Press Statement

Expiration of Special Permit Imminent for LNG Transportation
By Rail Car to Gibbstown Export Terminal

Organizations opposing the project hail important setback for the company’s plans to export LNG

Gibbstown, NJ - New information obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request reveals that a Special Permit that would have allowed for the transportation of hazardous liquefied natural gas (LNG) by rail through Pennsylvania and New Jersey communities will very likely expire on November 30.

The permit was granted by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) on December 5, 2019 to Energy Transport Solutions, a subsidiary of New Fortress Energy. New Fortress Energy plans to build an LNG export terminal in Gibbstown, NJ. Energy Transport Solutions failed to meet an important deadline for submitting an application to renew the Special Permit, leaving the status of its LNG-by-rail plans in question. PHMSA regulations require that an applicant for a renewal must apply for a renewal 60 days in advance of the expiration date of the permit in order to prevent the permit from expiring.¹

This is the latest of several setbacks in New Fortress’ plans to construct an enormous fracked gas infrastructure project. Construction of a liquefaction plant in Wyalusing, PA has been mothballed, and a pipeline application to deliver extracted feed gas to Wyalusing from shale gas wells has been abandoned. The company has also made little progress in developing a fleet of rail cars to use for LNG transport.

However, New Fortress has continued to pursue construction of the proposed LNG export terminal in Gibbstown, NJ, and liquefied fracked gas could still be transported to the port site via hundreds of daily truck trips. Even with LNG-by-rail off the table, the proposal poses grave risks to the health and safety of residents along the transport route, and endangers both the Delaware River and the climate. Several permits for the

¹ 49 CFR 107.109(b)
export terminal are still pending before the Murphy Administration with concerned local and Basin-wide organizations urging denial.


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