



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Delaware Riverkeeper Network Calls for Gibbstown LNG Dock Permit Extension to be opened to public hearing process and approval denied if action is taken at DRBC meeting Sept. 8**  
*No Behind-the-Scenes Decisions, the Public Requires Transparency*

West Trenton, NJ – Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) submitted a new letter on 9.6.22 protesting the unilateral, and previously undisclosed, approval given by the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) Executive Director Steve Tambini for the extension of the permit to Delaware River Partners (DRP) for the proposed Gibbstown Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Export Project on the Delaware River ([Docket No. D-2017-009-2](#)), located in Gloucester County NJ (the “Dock 2 Project”).

DRN discovered through a Freedom of Information Act request that the secret approval of a DRP-requested extension of its permit had been unilaterally granted by the DRBC Executive Director Steve Tambini. The revelation has been followed by a series of letters and submissions from Delaware Riverkeeper Network and representatives of the Delaware River LNG Coalition demanding the approval be rescinded, that there be full public disclosure, that a public hearing be held, and that any final determination be rendered by the DRBC Commissioners.

The approval ignored the requirement by the DRBC’s Rules of Practice and Procedure that the public have notice of, and input into, such a decision and that the DRBC Commissioners publicly vote on any such extension request. Agency transparency and the public’s right to have a say in the decisions that impact them and the environment are the cornerstone of the public participation process. In addition to the flawed approval process itself, the applicant did not meet its burden of showing it has met the requirements that would allow such an extension of their permit.

The letter rebuts arguments made by Delaware River Partners, the applicants for the construction of the LNG Dock and concludes:

“As requested in DRN’s August 17, 2022 submission, the Commission should rescind Mr.

Tambini’s letter dated June 16, 2022, and consider DRP’s application at a public hearing that has

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been properly noticed pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 401.5. Should the Commission choose to act on DRP's application at its September 8, 2022 business meeting, the request for extension of Docket No. D-2017-009-2 should be denied."

*Background:*

The DRBC original approval of the highly controversial "Dock 2" project at the Gibbstown Logistics Center included dredging of the river and the building of a 2-berth dock in the Delaware River that would be used by enormous tanker ships for the export of LNG by Delaware River Partners, an affiliate of New Fortress Energy.

The approval was the subject of a closely [watched appeal brought by Delaware Riverkeeper Network](#) in 2019 that concluded in December 2020 after a Hearing and a vote by the DRBC Commissioners to allow the LNG export terminal to move ahead. Public opposition raged during this decisionmaking process with tens of thousands of people and many local governments expressing opposition. DRN [appealed the approval](#) and the case is currently in federal court.

The Dock has not been built and is currently on hold because of a permit requirement that no dredging, construction or other disturbance can occur in the water at the site to protect the federally endangered Atlantic sturgeon found in the Delaware. The prohibition of river disturbance runs from March 15 to September 15, when, if all approvals from other entities are in place, construction could potentially begin.

To read the letter submitted by Delaware Riverkeeper Network on 9.6.22 go here: <https://bit.ly/3RJ53mJ>

The series of letters are available on DRN's website or by request.

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