

16 May 2023

Dear Deputy National Security Advisor Pyle:

On behalf of our millions of members and supporters, we write to you with deep concerns that the Japan-led G7 process could endorse the expansion of global Liquefied Fossil Gas (LNG) supplies. Because official support for new LNG infrastructure is incompatible with the Biden Administration's climate and environmental justice commitments, the United States should strenuously resist this outcome.

The G7 Climate and Environment Ministerial Communiqué in April stated that investment in the natural gas sector, including LNG, is only appropriate if "implemented in a manner consistent with our climate objectives and without creating lock-in effects." The G7 should clarify at its final meeting that new LNG export and import infrastructure fails this test.

As the [International Energy Agency](#) and others have made clear, there is no preventing a 1.5C world without preventing new oil and gas investments. Every LNG terminal that comes online risks locking-in decades of avoidable climate pollution and environmental injustice. While climate and environment ministers gestured towards "hydrogen-ready" LNG as a way to square new gas investments with climate targets, the economics, safety, and climate benefits of retrofitting LNG infrastructure for hydrogen remain [highly questionable](#).

With fossil fuel interests [unapologetically targeting](#) the G7, and Japan using its Presidency to seek support for new LNG, we call on the United States to prevent the gathering from endorsing dirty energy giveaways in the following areas:

- **Hydrogen-Readiness:** Vague promises of hydrogen readiness cannot become an excuse to expand fossil fuel infrastructure. Whether for liquid hydrogen or ammonia, the prospect of hydrogen retrofits for LNG terminals remains prohibitively expensive with major questions about both technical feasibility and climate benefits. This is a marketing campaign, not a technology; it cannot be allowed to justify the continued expansion of LNG.
- **Contracts:** New LNG projects require long-term contracts to secure commitments from lenders and other investors. The length of most contracts—generally at least 15 years—is a stark reminder that terminals breaking ground today will continue polluting long after meaningful climate thresholds have been crossed. The United States should oppose efforts in the G7 and other fora to expand LNG contracting, including through the creation of new market structures to aggregate demand.
- **Permitting Reform:** The permitting process for LNG in the United States already fails to consider climate, communities and consumers, serving as a rubber stamp for industry. The Biden Administration should vehemently resist any attempt to further expedite LNG permitting across G7 countries in ways that would further weaken community input and the assessment of climate and environmental justice impacts.

- **Public Finance:** Export Credit Agencies and other public financiers have played a disproportionate role in the LNG boom to date, with G20 countries providing [\\$78 billion](#) in credit and other investments for projects around the globe. The US EX-IM Bank alone is responsible for almost \$5 billion with the potential for billions more under its new facility for financing domestic projects. The United States should rapidly implement the Glasgow Statement to phase out its own financing of fossil fuels, including LNG, and call on Japan to join the rest of the G7 as a signatory.
- **“Clean” LNG Certification:** Recent announcements indicate that the DOE and representatives from other G7 countries are working with fossil fuel interests to develop an international certification framework for the carbon intensity of LNG. While there is an urgent need for strong and well-enforced methane regulations, this type of certification scheme risks simply helping LNG companies sell more of their product and secure more contracts for new facilities. It is extremely difficult to accurately measure the methane leakage and carbon intensity of the LNG supply chain, and we are skeptical that this type of certification would be meaningful or rigorous; more likely, it will amount to little more than greenwashing that conceals the climate and environmental justice harms of LNG.

It would be a climate and environmental justice disaster if the coming G7 was hijacked to support LNG. We urge the Biden Administration to stand firm and lead the way for fossil-free diplomacy.

Sincerely,

CC:

Principal Deputy National Security Advisor Jon Finer

Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry

Senior Advisor John Podesta

Senior Director and Assistant to the President Sarah Ladislaw

Senior Advisor Amos Hochstein

Deputy Secretary Dave Turk, Department of Energy

Assistant Secretary Andrew Light, Department of Energy

Assistant Secretary Brad Crabtree, Department of Energy

A Community Voice

Action for the Climate Emergency

Africa Network for Environment & Economic Justice  
Better Brazoria Clean Air & Water  
Beyond Extreme Energy  
Bronx Climate Justice North  
Carrizo/Comecrudo Tribe of Texas  
Cascadia Climate Action Now  
Catskill Mountainkeeper  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Center for International Environmental Law  
Center for Oil & Gas Organizing  
Central Jersey Coalition Against Endless War  
Chatham Research Group  
Chesapeake Climate Action Network  
Chispa Texas  
Citizens Alliance for a Sustainable Englewood  
Clean Energy Action  
Climate Action Campaign of the Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
Climate Equity Policy Center  
Climate Hawks Vote  
Climate Reality Project New Orleans  
ClimateMama  
Coalition Against Death Alley  
Color Brighton Green  
Common Defense  
Concerned Citizens of St. John  
Concerned Health Professionals of Pennsylvania  
Deignan Institute for Earth & Spirit  
Don't Waste Arizona  
Down East Coal Ash Environmental & Social Justice Coalition  
Earth Action, Inc.  
Earth Uprising International  
Earthworks

Eco-Conscience  
ecoAmerica  
Ecologistas en Acción  
Edmund Rice International  
Elders Climate Action  
Empower Our Future  
Energy & Environmental Initiative of the Colorado Democratic Party  
Estes Valley Clean Energy Coalition  
Extinction Rebellion San Francisco Bay Area  
Extinction Rebellion US  
Fenceline Watch  
Food & Water Watch  
For a Better Bayou  
Fracking Free Clare  
Friends of the Earth U.S.  
Grassroots Global Justice Alliance  
Greater New Orleans Interfaith Climate Coalition  
Greenpeace USA  
Hispanic Access Foundation  
In the Shadow of the Wolf  
Incendiary Literary  
Inclusive Louisiana  
Institute for Policy Studies Climate Policy Program  
Kentucky interfaith Power  
League of Conservation Voters  
Mighty Earth  
MoveOn.org Hoboken  
Natural Capitalism Solutions  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
New Mexico Climate Justice  
New York Progressive Action Network Greene  
Nicaragua Center for Community Action

North American Climate, Conservation & Environment  
North Bronx Racial Justice  
North Quabbin Energy  
Northern New Jersey Jewish Voice for Peace  
Nuclear Information & Resource Service  
Occupy Bergen County  
Ocean Conservation Research  
Oil & Gas Action Network  
Oil Change International  
Our Revolution Ocean County  
Pacific Environment  
Pass the Federal Green New Deal  
Plastic Pollution Coalition  
Port Arthur Community Action Network  
Primavera Zur  
Progressives for Climate  
Public Citizen  
Rachel Carson Council  
Rainforest Action Network  
Robeson County Cooperative for Sustainable Development  
Save RGV  
Seven Circles Foundation  
Sierra Club  
South Seattle Climate Action Network  
St. Mark's United Methodist Church  
Stand.earth  
Stop The Oil Profiteering  
Sunrise New Orleans  
Louisiana League of Conscious Voters  
Texas Campaign for the Environment  
The Last Plastic Straw  
The Quantum Institute

TIAA-Divest!

Toxic Free North Carolina

tUrn Climate Crisis Awareness & Action

Turtle Island Restoration Network

Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community

Unite North Metro Denver

Vote Climate

Waterspirit

Women's Environment & Development Organization

Wooley Energy & Environment

Zero Hour

Zilkha Center for Environmental Initiatives

1000 Grandmothers for Future Generations

198 methods

350 Colorado

350 Deschutes

350 New Orleans

350 Sacramento

350 Seattle

350 Triangle

[350.org](http://350.org)

7 Directions of Service