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**Local Residents Speak Out at People's Hearing to Stop Permitting of
Annova LNG Fracked Gas Terminal in South Texas**

*Save RGV from LNG, Sierra Club join together in protest of proposed fracked gas terminal that
would sever wildlife corridor*

PORT ISABEL, TX - Yesterday, over two dozen Rio Grande Valley residents, led by the Save RGV from LNG Coalition and the Sierra Club, hosted a demonstration of opposition to the Annova LNG export terminal at a comment session held by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the regulatory agency responsible for the permitting of the project. Annova LNG is one of three fracked gas export terminals proposed for the Rio Grande Valley. The proposed projects would pollute South Texas communities, as well as increase the demand for fracking in other regions of the state so the fracked gas can be sent abroad. FERC is set to announce a decision on the permits for Rio Grande LNG, Texas LNG, and Annova LNG this summer.



The purpose of the comment session was to record verbal comments on the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) of the Annova LNG terminal released last month. The draft EIS is a document that describes the environmental, social, and safety impacts of the LNG project. After

submitting comments to stenographers inside the Port Isabel Event and Cultural Center, community activists hosted a people's hearing and protest outside to uplift concerns about Annova LNG in a public space. A few blocks away from the protest, residents projected a message on the Port Isabel Lighthouse.

"FERC tried to fly under the radar by scheduling this comment session right after the holiday season, but that won't keep local residents from coming to speak out about these LNG projects and the threat to our community's safety," said **Rebekah Hinojosa, Brownsville Sierra Club Organizer**. "While the border wall is making national news, we want people to know that's not the only threat to our communities. These misguided, destructive fracked gas export projects will not benefit us and are being pushed through despite massive community opposition."

"Annova LNG is the worst of the worst for the endangered ocelot and other wildlife," said **Jim Chapman, with Save RGV from LNG**. "We have been mobilizing our community to stop all three fracked gas terminals for the past four years, and we will continue to do so."

The cumulative environmental impacts of the three terminals would damage the relatively pristine and unindustrialized area near South Padre Island with fracked gas infrastructure like storage tanks, massive tanker ships, and smoking flare stacks. The construction of the Annova LNG terminal specifically would sever a wildlife corridor, threatening the endangered ocelot.

The construction of the LNG export terminals would also increase the demand for fracking across Texas, especially in the Permian Basin and Eagle Ford Shale regions. Rural communities and major metropolitan areas like San Antonio alike suffer from the effects of heavy fracking like toxic air pollution and sinkholes.

None of the three LNG terminals -- Rio Grande LNG, Texas LNG, and Annova LNG -- nor the Rio Bravo Pipeline, have received approval to build. The deadline to submit comments on Annova LNG's DEIS is February 4, 2019.

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About the Sierra Club

The Sierra Club is America's largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization, with more than 3 million members and supporters. In addition to helping people from all backgrounds explore nature and our outdoor heritage, the Sierra Club works to promote clean energy, safeguard the health of our communities, protect wildlife, and preserve our remaining wild places through grassroots activism, public education, lobbying, and legal action. For more information, visit www.sierraclub.org.

About Save RGV from LNG

Save RGV from LNG is a community-led coalition which has been raising economic, environmental, and community concerns about the proposed LNG complex in the Port of Brownsville for several years.

