

September 19, 2023

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Speaker of the House  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem S. Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker McCarthy and Leader Jeffries,

On behalf of our millions of members and supporters, the undersigned write to express our **opposition to [H.R.1130](#), the Unlocking our Domestic LNG Potential Act of 2023, and any related amendments** that would accelerate the expansion of liquefied methane gas (otherwise known as liquefied natural gas, or LNG) exports. This bill would strip away the federal government's responsibility to examine the full impacts of LNG expansion on U.S. energy markets, the environment, and local communities. LNG exports negatively impact Americans by exacerbating climate change, perpetuating environmental injustices, and raising domestic energy prices, and these factors need to be taken into account when deciding whether to approve additional LNG export terminals. **Rather than passing an appropriations package to fund the government and avoid a catastrophic shutdown, the House Majority is instead using valuable floor time to consider giveaways to the fossil fuel industry.**

This legislation is a dangerous handout to the gas industry at the expense of public health, climate change, and consumers. H.R. 1130 would make it easier to approve LNG exports by removing the first three sections of the Natural Gas Act, which require a public interest determination for LNG exports to non-FTA countries, and by mandating that FERC deem gas exports in the public interest. Thanks in large part to the massive growth in exports, the fossil fuel industry is already raking in record profits at the expense of consumers and future generations, yet their supporters in Congress are putting forward legislation to lock us into increased extraction, high and volatile energy prices, continued environmental degradation, and worsening health, safety and climate change impacts, particularly for frontline communities. This legislation would exacerbate domestic energy insecurity and delay the transition to clean, renewable, secure, and affordable energy at home and for our allies abroad.

As the climate crisis worsens, it is critical that permitting decisions take lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions of LNG export facilities into account. There are eight existing LNG export facilities and over 20 proposed additional projects, the full buildout of which would [contribute](#) to climate change as much as annual emissions from 661 additional coal plants or 532 million cars. Expanding domestic fossil fuel production to supply LNG exports directly impedes the U.S.'s ability to meet its own greenhouse gas and methane targets, jeopardizes the commitments of countries where the gas is exported, and undermines our ability to lead by example in global efforts to wind down fossil fuel production and avert catastrophic climate impacts. The proposed legislation would undermine the federal government's responsibility to consider such impacts when deciding whether an LNG export project should be approved.

The expansion of LNG exports is also a glaring environmental injustice. Sited primarily in communities of color along the Gulf Coast, existing and proposed LNG export facilities harm

communities that are already overburdened by industrial pollution from the fossil fuel industry, as well as the effects of extreme weather driven by climate change. It is important that the U.S. government retains the authority to make public interest determinations for LNG exports in line with its environmental justice policies.

Across the U.S., American consumers are suffering from inflation exacerbated by LNG exports, and people of color and lower income households have been hit the hardest. Skyrocketing home energy prices can be traced to increases in LNG exports - as can increases in prices of consumer goods. The harms of high energy and consumer good prices disproportionately fall on those who are already disadvantaged. On the other hand, the benefits are largely confined to those who own shares in or are employed by fossil fuel companies. It is imperative that federal agencies retain the authority to consider domestic consumer impacts when determining whether additional exports are in the public interest.

We write to express our concern with efforts to weaken laws and regulations governing LNG export permitting. We hope that you will join us in opposing this piece of harmful legislation.

Sincerely,

Action for the Climate Emergency  
Alaska Wilderness League  
Carrizo Comecrudo Tribe of Texas  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Center for Oil and Gas Organizing  
Chispa Texas  
Clean Air and Water, Better Brazoria  
Climate Hawks Vote  
Earth Action Inc  
Earthjustice  
Earthworks  
Food and Water Watch  
For a Better Bayou  
Friends of the Earth  
Green America  
Hip Hop Caucus  
Ingleside on the Bay Coastal Watch Association  
Interfaith Power & Light  
League of Conservation Voters  
Louisiana Bucket Brigade  
Maine Conservation Voters  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
New Energy Economy  
North Carolina League of Conservation Voters  
Nuclear Information and Resource Service  
Property Rights and Pipeline Center  
Public Citizen

Save RGV  
Sierra Blanca Legal Defense Fund  
Sierra Club  
SouthWings  
Texas Campaign for the Environment  
Turtle Island Restoration Network  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
WE ACT for Environmental Justice  
Zero Hour