

10 March, 2025

Dear Taoiseach Martin and Tánaiste Harris,

We write to you today as Americans, who have been poisoned and have suffered from the impacts of fracking and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) export terminals in our communities, and as health professionals and organizations, who are working to stop fracking and LNG. We respectfully invite you to come and see the devastation wrought by fracking and this polluting infrastructure for yourself when you come to visit the United States for St. Patrick's Day this week.

We are greatly disappointed to learn that your government last week approved moving forward with commissioning a plan to build a government funded LNG import terminal as a "strategic gas emergency reserve" that could import US LNG, which is drawn from fracked gas. This sudden change in policy appears to be in response to Trump demanding that Europe buy more US LNG and fracked gas and weapons from the United States. It is very alarming that you are fast-tracking this terminal after former Minister Eamon Ryan reported that this very same terminal is unnecessary after significant research and would be too expensive given that it will cost hundreds of millions of Euro and take at least five years to build. We are aware that the previous Government had the Department of Climate, Environment and Energy commission an independent study on alternatives for an emergency energy reserve that would include a public consultation or public comment period before a final decision is made. This report has not been released. We agree with [Irish advocates](#) that releasing the report is critical as it evaluates less polluting alternatives, which could save the Irish government from spending hundreds of millions of taxpayer money and cost consumers with higher energy bills. It is honestly outrageous that you would fast-track approval of a LNG terminal and the import of U.S. fracked gas when you have cheaper and safer alternatives that your government is currently researching and could very well be finalizing a report.

We implore you to please not sell out our lives and those of our communities to make a deal with Trump or the fossil fuel industry to import U.S. fracked gas to Ireland. As a country that banned fracking because of the impacts to public health and the environment, it is disheartening that you would be comfortable importing that suffering from the United States. The public health harms from fracking in Pennsylvania and the United States have been severe. The scientist and health organizations Physicians for Social Responsibility and the Concerned Health Professionals of NY recently [released a report](#) that details the findings from over 2,000 scientific studies and reports, which overwhelmingly show significant harms from fracking, LNG, and related infrastructure, including water contamination, air pollution, and public health impacts. In 2017, the Irish government, including your political parties, unanimously passed a law to ban fracking because of its environmental and public health impacts and should ban LNG for those very same reasons. In the company's own financial disclosures, New Fortress Energy [states](#) that, "Operation of our infrastructure, facilities and vessels involve significant risk...accidents, fires, explosions or other events or catastrophes... pollution, release of or exposure to toxic substances, or environmental contamination affecting operation."

While the impacts of fracking are horrendous, the impacts of LNG export infrastructure are terrible as well. In December 2024, the Biden Administration released a study the [“Energy, Environmental and Economic Impacts of U.S. LNG Exports”](#), which finds significant harms from LNG and that they disproportionately impact “communities of Black, Indigenous, and Hispanic populations, as well as rural and low-income communities”. If you approve this LNG import terminal, then you are knowingly harming our communities as well as endangering your own. The risks are grave for Ireland and your citizens as well. LNG is volatile and extremely dangerous, and transporting it puts communities at grave risk. If it spills, the liquid can turn into rapidly expanding vapor clouds that can flash-freeze human flesh. LNG is highly flammable and burns so hot that it can [burn people up to 2 kilometers away](#). It has also been [reported by national security experts](#) to be a greater security risk for state-sponsored terrorist attacks than pipelines. In New York State, a proposed LNG import terminal was [rejected](#) by the Governor in part because of the security risks it posed.

Lastly, many of our communities and groups have been working for years to stop the LNG company New Fortress Energy and we want to warn you about them. Right now the company is on the verge of bankruptcy. They reported to their own investors that if they don't [refinance \\$875 million in debt](#) by next July, they are done. The Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis [reported](#) their significant financial troubles this past summer and made it quite clear this company would make a terrible business partner. Ireland's Sunday Business Post also [reported](#) on the company's ballooning debt and dropping credit ratings in December. In the company's own financial disclosures, New Fortress Energy [states](#) that, "Operation of our infrastructure, facilities and vessels involve significant risk...accidents, fires, explosions or other events or catastrophes... pollution, release of or exposure to toxic substances, or environmental contamination affecting operation." Puerto Rico is the only place where New Fortress Energy has a public-private partnership with the government and it [has been a disaster](#) with corruption and the company operating without proper permits. In response, there is a growing movement of organizations, businesses and also Catholic nuns [who have been outspoken and are suing](#) New Fortress Energy for their corrupt public-private partnership with the Puerto Rican government.

We invite you to come and see firsthand what fracking and LNG infrastructure are doing to our communities and why pursuing LNG and taking fracked gas to appease Trump is terrible both for Ireland and for Americans facing the horrific impacts. Taoiseach Martin, you are traveling to Texas, and Tánaiste Harris, you will be in Pennsylvania. In both these states we can take you on a citizens tour to see the devastation. We ask you to please consider our invitation and reconsider moving forward with this ill-conceived proposal for a government funded LNG import terminal.

Sincerely,

Ramsay Adams, Livingston Manor, New York, Catskill Mountainkeeper
Lois Bower-Bjornson, Scenery Hill, Pennsylvania, Clean Air Council
Tracy Carluccio, Bristol, Pennsylvania, Delaware Riverkeeper Network
Larysa Dyrszka, MD, Bethel, New York

Karen Elias, Lock Haven, Pennsylvania,, No False Climate Solutions PA
Karen Feridun, Kutztown, Pennsylvania
Sandy Field, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, Save Our Susquehanna
Mary Finneran, Cairo, New York, FrackBustersNY
Ronald Gulla, Cannonsburgh, Pennsylvania
James Hiatt, Lake Charles, Louisiana, For a Better Bayou
Raleigh Hoke, New Orleans, Louisiana, Healthy Gulf
Raymond Kemble, Dimock, Pennsylvania, Dimock Environmental Research Center
Ned Ketyer, MD, Venetia, Pennsylvania, Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania
Kathy Nolan, MD, MSL, Mt Tremper, New York, Physicians for Social Responsibility New York
Jay Notartomaso, West Wyoming, Pennsylvania, NEPA Green Coalition
Carmi Orenstein, MPH, Ithaca, New York, Concerned Health Professionals of New York
Roishetta S Ozane, Sulphur, Louisiana, Vessel Project of Louisiana
Alyssa Marie Portaro, Vinton, Louisiana, Habitat Recovery Project
Amy Ross, Pennsylvania
Rebecca Roter, Montrose, Pennsylvania, Breathe Easy Susquehanna County
Barton Schoenfeld, MD, FACC, Valatie, New York
Jody Lynn Abramson Schoenfeld, Valatie, New York, Third Act Upstate NY
Shannon Smith, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, FracTracker Alliance
Craig Stevens, Silver Lake Township, Pennsylvania, Patriots From The Oil & Gas Shales
Victoria Lee Switzer, Dimock, Pennsylvania
Tamela Trussell, Carlisle, Pennsylvania
Julia Walsh, New Paltz, New York, Frack Action
Jessica Wilson, Springville, Pennsylvania