



www.sierraclub.org/ca/coasts

Sierra Club opposes the Liquefied Natural Gas off the coast of Ventura County because:

- There is no credible evidence that California needs Liquefied Natural Gas! California's Energy Commission has predicted that California will have adequate natural gas supplies for the next ten years without importing any LNG. Residential natural gas use is declining and will continue to decline for at least the next decade! If, in the future, the state determines that California needs Liquefied Natural Gas, then the state should be involved in determining the appropriate numbers of and the safest locations for any LNG terminals.
- The Liquefied Natural Gas terminal proposed off our coast is untried and exists nowhere else in the world. This technology, that big oil and mining corporations are pushing, is untested and its reliability and safety record are unproven. Why should the people of Ventura County have to take the risks when there is so little to gain, and so much to lose?
- In his book, "About All Enemies," Former National Counter-Terrorism Czar, Richard Clarke, warned about terrorists using Liquefied Natural Gas tankers as floating bombs and is quoted as saying "**Had one of the giant tankers blown up..., it would have wiped out downtown Boston**" Liquefied Natural Gas terminals and tankers raise the possibility of terrorist attacks, and the current proposed terminal is close to vital shipping lanes as well as the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.
- The risk from Liquefied Natural Gas doesn't stop at our coast. There are proposals to run high-pressure gas pipelines under Ventura County's communities, through the fragile Ormond Beach Wetlands and near multiple school sites. According to George Shaw, with the office of the State Superintendent of Public Education; "**What is known today is that the proposed pipelines go past or near several schools and schoolsites in several Ventura County school districts. Where pipelines exist and would be expanded in flow capacity, nearby schools would be subject to increased peril. Where pipelines do not exist but would if these projects are approved, nearby schools would be subject to a new and significant hazard...**"

(over)

- Liquefied Natural Gas off Ventura County's coast could lower local property values as dangerous high-pressure pipelines are constructed under our communities.
- Accidents Happen!
 - On Thursday, Nov. 18, 2004 there was a dangerous gas leak on a platform off Ventura County's coast.
 - On Friday, Nov. 5, 2004 a freighter struck a natural gas platform 17 miles off shore in the Gulf of Mexico causing an intense fire that could be seen from shore.
 - January, 2004 a Liquefied Natural Gas plant in Algeria Africa exploded killing twenty seven people. The blast in a largely unpopulated area was felt miles away.
- LNG is just another polluting foreign fossil fuel that leads to global warming, rising ocean levels and increased air pollution.
- There are limited quantities of natural gas in the world, and most of it is located in Indonesia, the Middle East and other places hostile toward Americans. Australia's relatively small supply will run out in a few short years, leaving the BHP terminal to bring in gas that is potentially even less clean from other dangerous parts of the world.
- The terminals, tankers, and infrastructure needed to bring LNG to Ventura County will cost billions of dollars, all for an energy source that is already outdated and already limited.
- **Money should instead be invested in solar power and other safe, clean and renewable sources of energy to protect our communities and future generations.**

For more information contact:

Trevor Smith, Sierra Club, Los Padres Chapter LNG Task Force Chair (805) 469-9765