



## FACT SHEET:

# ***The Cabrillo Port Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Project***

Provided by *The Environmental Defense Center*, Santa Barbara CA [www.edcnet.org](http://www.edcnet.org)

### ***WHAT IS LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS (LNG)?***

- LNG is natural gas that has been “supercooled” to around -160°C and condensed into its liquid form, for transport overseas by ships.
- After transport, LNG must be warmed up and vaporized, or “re-gasified,” before it can be distributed for use by consumers.
- LNG exporting nations are many of the same that export oil. Russia, Qatar and Iran hold almost 60% of global gas reserves.

### ***WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS WITH LNG?***

- LNG is a finite fossil fuel. Its use emits CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gases, aggravating global warming.
- Use of LNG means dependence on foreign countries for our electricity, heating and cooking fuels (like our dependence on foreign oil for transportation fuel).
- LNG causes air and water pollution, and impacts wildlife and the environment... from the places it is extracted and processed, to the coastal areas where it is imported and re-gasified.
- If LNG is released by accident or deliberate terrorist attack, it may evaporate and explode, or burn at extremely high temperature. LNG accidents have caused serious loss of life and property around the world, including in the US.

### ***DOES CALIFORNIA HAVE BETTER ALTERNATIVES?***

- Energy conservation and efficiency could provide California with more than twice the energy supplied by one LNG terminal, without increasing our foreign dependence or aggravating global warming.
- Expanding our use of climate-safe renewable energy sources like wind, solar, geothermal and biomass to levels already mandated by California state law would provide more than enough energy to meet projected demand. Such sources would increase our energy independence, reducing reliance on foreign supplies.
- Existing American and Canadian natural gas supplies can more than meet California's gas needs.

## **WHAT IS THE CABRILLO PORT LNG TERMINAL?**

- Australian multi-national corporation BHP Billiton is planning a 300-meter long floating terminal, the Cabrillo Port, to receive and process LNG 14 miles offshore near Oxnard and Malibu. If built and installed, the terminal will be the first ever offshore LNG terminal worldwide.
- LNG supertankers would arrive at the terminal (3 per week) to offload their cargo. There, LNG would be re-gasified before transport to shore via a new sub-sea pipeline to be built by BHP Billiton.
- Once ashore, the natural gas would continue through nearly 15 miles of new onshore gas pipeline running between Oxnard and Camarillo, before entering the existing natural gas infrastructure.

## **SHOULD I BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE CABRILLO PORT?**

- The LNG terminal would be located near major shipping lanes, potentially impacting navigation by commercial, private, and Naval vessels. An accident at the terminal or on a tanker could threaten ships, recreational boaters, and marine wildlife with explosion or fire.
- According to the US Geological Survey, the LNG terminal and new gas pipelines are proposed for seismically active earthquake areas.
- The project would emit over 270 tons of smog-producing air pollution per year into the Oxnard area, as well as greenhouse gases aggravating global warming. Yet BHP Billiton claims the project is exempt from requirements to offset such emissions.
- Cabrillo Port would be located in a unique, sensitive ecosystem, near the Channel Islands National Park and Marine Sanctuary. Operations will kill plankton like fish eggs and larvae, while pipeline construction could disrupt coastal wetlands and impact habitats.
- Discharges from Cabrillo Port will degrade ocean water quality. Underwater noise from the tankers, the terminal and pipeline construction could impact whales and dolphins, or cause them to abandon traditional habitat and migration routes.
- The project would disproportionately impact low income and culturally diverse communities; the proposed gas pipeline would run near several Oxnard-area public school sites. Yet there is no guarantee the imported gas will benefit Oxnard residents.

○ **LEARN MORE:** Contact the **Environmental Defense Center** [www.edcnet.org](http://www.edcnet.org) or phone 805-963-1622. Read the Revised DEIR now at [www.CabrilloPort.ene.com](http://www.CabrilloPort.ene.com)

○ **GET INVOLVED!** Send your written comments **by April 28** to: **Dwight Sanders**, State Lands Commission, 100 Howe Ave, Suite 100-South, Sacramento, CA 95825; or by email to [BHPRevisedDEIR@slc.ca.gov](mailto:BHPRevisedDEIR@slc.ca.gov). Also send your comments to **Governor Schwarzenegger**, State Capitol Building, Sacramento, CA 95814 [www.govmail.ca.gov](http://www.govmail.ca.gov)

○ **SPEAK OUT!** Voice your comments at the official **Public Hearing** on Cabrillo Port in Oxnard, CA on **Wednesday April 19, 2006**. 1:00 – 4:00pm, and 6:30 – 9:30pm. Location: Performing Arts Center, Oxnard Room, 800 Hobson Way, Oxnard, CA.